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Kuwait seeks Arab solution, 'just and practical' Iraqi stance



Syrian President Hafez Al-Assad (right) with Kuwait's Cabinet Affairs Minister Abdul Rahman Al-Awadi at the presidential palace in Damascus on Monday. Al-Awadi conveyed a message from HH the Amir of Kuwait to Assad on the Iraq-Kuwait row. (Reuter wirephoto)



Kuwait's Cabinet Affairs Minister Abdul Rahman Al-Awadi (right) and his Syrian counterpart Yasam Rajoub on arrival at Damascus airport on Sunday to deliver a message to Syrian leaders on Kuwait's row with Iraq. (Reuter wirephoto)

Mood upbeat on Cairo mediation

Hint of blueprint as League scraps role Assad calls for calm to defuse crisis

ALEXANDRIA, July 23, (Agencies): The leaders of Egypt and Jordan got together with Iraq's foreign minister today and said Iraq's furious row with Kuwait would soon be solved.

reporters after meeting King Hussein and Iraqi Foreign Minister Tareq Aziz in Alexandria.

"It does not need all this noise which is happening in the media," he said.

Kuwait said today it wanted Arabs to settle the dispute and denied it had asked for UN intervention.

Mubarak held his first round of talks with Aziz yesterday. Shortly before the meeting, Mubarak described the row as a "cloud which will pass," and Aziz denied his country was threatening anyone.

In Alexandria, Mubarak and King Hussein first met alone then were joined by Aziz. Hussein later had separate talks with both Aziz and Mubarak. After the talks the three lunched together.

Mubarak also received a telephone call from HH the Amir of Kuwait Sheikh Jaber Al-Ahmed Al-Sabah. The Egyptian leaders told reporters after the meetings Egypt had not yet launched any initiative to contain the crisis.

An official source yesterday said Kuwait had presented a memo to the United Nations secretary-general on the crisis, with the sole purpose of informing the UN chief on the dispute in accordance with customary international practice.

The source indicated he was replying to an earlier statement by an Iraqi spokesman who said that Kuwait, by sending a memo to the UN chief on the row, was seeking to internationalize it.

"We stress again that when

(Continued on Page 11)

King Fahd invited to visit China

FOLLOWING the establishment of diplomatic relations between Saudi Arabia and the People's Republic of China, Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen delivered an invitation yesterday to King Fahd to visit Beijing.

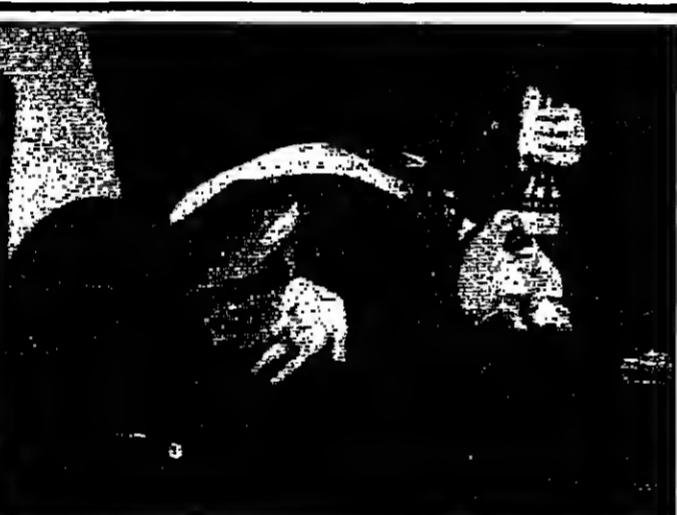
After an audience with the Saudi monarch Qian told a press conference that the invitation from Chinese President Yang Shanzhou has been accepted by King Fahd and the date would be fixed later.

Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al-Faisal said following the signing ceremony in Riyadh Saturday that the move "is an important step that will have an impact on the interests of the two nations and the interest of our Arab and Islamic nations."

The move closed the chapter of Saudi Arabia's refusal to establish diplomatic ties with any communist nation and was expected to eventually pave the way for a similar step with the Soviet Union.

(See Page 11)

V.P. Singh (right) reviews a guard of honour with Ryzhkov (left) as he arrives at Moscow's Sheremetyevo airport yesterday. (Reuter wirephoto)



Romance

Wall concert

Nearly 200,000 people crammed into the former "death strip" at the Berlin Wall on Saturday night for one of the most elaborate rock concerts ever staged—an all-star version of Pink Floyd's "The Wall."

The two-hour show, televised around the world, was a spectacular feast of fireworks, lights, animation and special effects with an eccentric cast of thousands.

Picture shows Cyndi Lauper acting as a schoolgirl during "The Wall" concert. (Reuter wirephoto)

Hint at mid-term poll in India

MADRAS, July 23, (Reuter): India's crisis-torn minority government might have to face mid-term elections, the leader of the Hindu revivalist Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) said yesterday.

BJP president Lal Kishen Advani, whose party helps keep the National Front government of Prime Minister Vishwanath Pratap Singh in power, said he doubted the government would last its full five-year term.

"There is a possibility of mid-term elections," Advani told a party meeting in Madras.

In a power struggle last week with his deputy, Devi Lal, Singh offered and then withdrew his resignation. He said later his government had emerged stronger from the crisis and would complete its five years in office.

Advani said his party had assumed the government would last its full term.

West Berliner wins face twisting contest

MONTRÉAL, France, July 23, (Reuter): A West Berliner specializing in rubbing his eyes with his chin and swallowing his nose has won the world grimacing competition.

Hans Ebbauer, a 57-year-old roofer, dedicated his ugly-featured victory to the citizens of East Germany as they move toward unification with West Germany.

Speaking after unfolding his face from the nose-concealing grimace that won him the title, Ebbauer told Reuters: "I am delighted to dedicate this title to my brothers from East Germany."

(Continued on Page 2)

Indian premier arrives in Moscow

Talks with Gorbachev to focus on Kashmir, trade ties



V.P. Singh (right) reviews a guard of honour with Ryzhkov (left) as he arrives at Moscow's Sheremetyevo airport yesterday. (Reuter wirephoto)

MOSCOW, July 23, (Reuter): Indian Prime Minister Vishwanath Pratap Singh arrived in Moscow today for talks the Kremlin hopes will dispel fears that it has forgotten India and the Third World.

Singh was welcomed at the airport in pouring rain by Soviet Prime Minister Nikolai Ryzhkov, and was later due to discuss trade and economic relations with him.

All-India Radio reported the leaders would also discuss the bloody secessionist campaign in the north Indian state of Jammu and Kashmir.

The Soviet media have given prominent coverage to the visit, Singh's first to a major power since he defeated Rajiv Gandhi's Congress Party in last November's general election.

"This visit... refutes the allegation, made recently

(Continued on Page 2)

Currency Rates

THE Central Bank of Kuwait currency rates against the Kuwaiti dinar on July 22.

Currency	Buying	Selling
US dollar	289.50	290.740
Sterling	526.40	529.300
Deutsche mark	176.790	177.610
Swiss franc	206.920	207.900
French franc	052.700	052.960
Italian lire	0003212	0002424
Japanese yen	0019461	0019553
Bahraini dinar	768.140	771.400
UAE dirham	079.520	077.530
Saudi riyal	077.210	079.170
Qatari riyal	751.980	755.470

The dollar fell sharply against other major currencies in Europe Monday, hit by Wall Street's 100-point decline.

Gold prices jumped more than six dollars an ounce, boosted by the drops in share prices and the dollar.

In London, the British pound rose to \$1.8215 from \$1.8140 late Friday.

Other late dollar rates in Europe, compared with late Friday:

- 1.6278 West German marks, down from 1.6410
- 1.3880 Swiss francs, down from 1.4070
- 5.4598 French francs, down from 5.5045
- 1.8430 Dutch guilders, down from 1.8485

In Tokyo, the dollar closed at 148.50 yen, up 0.15 yen from Friday's finish. Later in London, the dollar was closed at 148.40 yen.

Gold rose in London to a late bid price of \$368.15 a troy ounce.

In Zurich, gold rose to a closing bid of \$367.75 from \$361.50 bid late Friday.

(Continued on Page 2)

Arrested

Binton Karyn Smith, 19, arrested on heroin smuggling charges at Bangkok international airport, smiles after hearing she will meet her father Eric who had travelled from Britain to see her on Monday. (Reuter wirephoto)

See also Page 2

INTERNATIONAL

Philippines

(Continued from Page 1)

of honour to our foreign creditors," said Rep Ramon Mitra, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

During the 55-minute speech, Aquino urged Congress to approve a 10 billion peso (\$500,000) emergency aid package to cope with effects of the July 16 quake, which hit Manila and surrounding Luzon island.

But she repeated her opposition to congressional calls for suspending payments on the country's \$26 billion foreign debt to free money for reconstruction.

"I am down-hearted because she is cold to our call for support on the suspension of debt servicing," said Sen Aquilino Pimentel, one of Aquino's campaign managers in the 1986 presidential election. "This could have been the best way for us to have sourced funds" for reconstruction.

During the speech, Aquino praised the spirit of the Filipino people in coping with the quake's aftermath.

But she offered no tribute to those who died.

"Finally, I should like to thank all of our friends throughout the world — governments, institutions as well as individuals — for the humanitarian assistance given to our people and the victims of the earthquake," she said.

She also made no mention of an American pilot who lost his life on Friday when his US Marine OV-10 observation plane crashed while flying relief missions near Baguio, 130 miles (210 kilometres) north of Manila.

At the same time, Aquino called for national unity over the issue of whether to extend the lease on six American military bases in the country. The lease expires in September 1991, and talks resume next month on a new agreement.

"We must ensure that in mak-



Philippine President Corazon Aquino delivers the state of the nation address on Monday before a joint gathering of 23 senators and 194 congressmen at the Parliament House in Manila. At the back is Ramon Mitra, the speaker of the House of Representatives. (Reuter wirephoto)

ing the decision as to whether the bases must go or stay, we must unite instead of divide," Aquino said. "Should we become a nation divided after this decision, then there will be no sovereignty to speak of."

Her past state of the nation addresses were interrupted by

frequent applause. Today, the audience gave perfunctory applause only at the beginning and end of the speech.

Sen. Ernesto Macea, chairman of the Senate defence committee, said the speech showed that "she seems to be out of touch."

The prime minister early today.

But political commentators here believed that Thatcher's main priority was to find a new financial secretary to the treasury, after Peter Lilley replaced Nicholas Ridley as trade and industry secretary.

The commentators also suggested that Thatcher intended to freshen the look of her government by getting rid of some long-serving ministers.

Meanwhile, the message from official circles here was that the reshuffle would involve only a small number of people.

Speculations were mounting about the fate of some ministers of state who do not sit on the cabinet as they arrived at Downing Street this morning.

It is believed that among the victims will be Lord Brabazon, minister of state at the Foreign Office, who deals specifically with the Far East, and South-East Asia.

He spent just 10 minutes at Downing Street with

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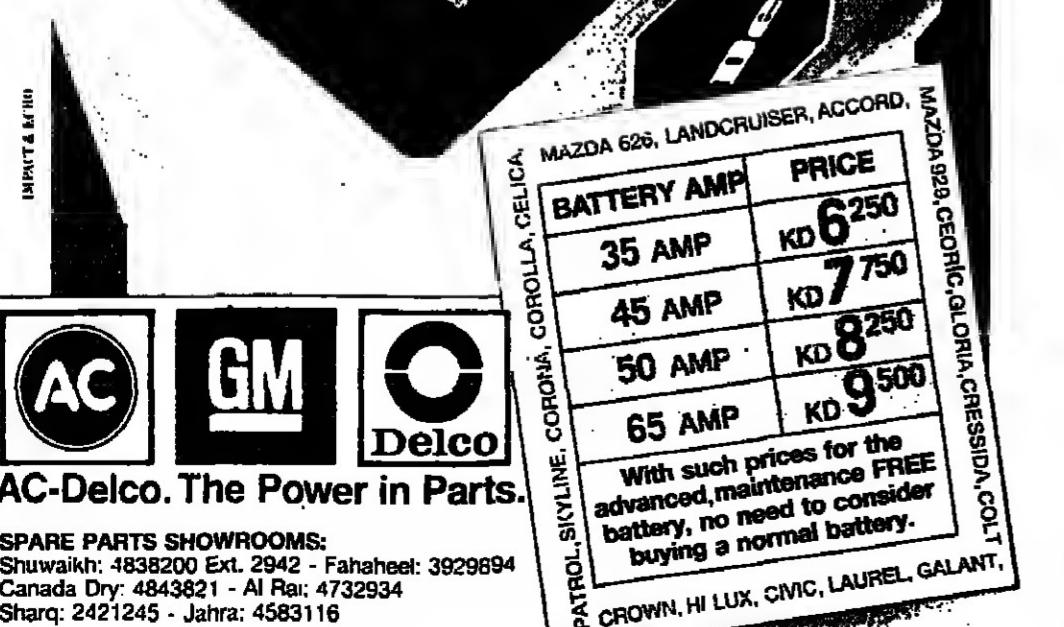
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Oil

(Continued from Page 1)

to turn the August 1988 Gulf war ceasefire into a lasting peace.

"The resumption of war is not in Iraq's interest, and in its approach toward peace talks, that country has adopted a positive policy," he said.

After recent face-to-face talks between the Iraqi and Iranian foreign ministers, Iran said it was willing to co-operate with Iraq on oil policy in an effort to shore up petroleum prices.

Ameeri

Kuwaiti Oil Minister Rashid Salim Al Ameeri, said yesterday evening he hoped for an amiable Opec conference despite a war of words.

Ameeri was the first minister to arrive for the talks, which formally open on Thursday. In response to reporters' questions, he said he anticipated shaking the hand of Iraqi Oil Minister Issam Abdul Rahim Al Chalabi.

"Definitely. Why not?" the Kuwaiti minister replied.

Analysts expect the meeting to be tense because of Iraqi stance. Nonetheless, asked if he expected an amicable conference, Ameeri said: "I hope so."

Iraq is seeking not only to return the price for Opec oil to the organization's set target of \$18 barrel, but to boost it to \$25.

Output

Abu Dhabi has told producer firms to cut output by 400,000 barrels per day in August to meet a new quota allocation for the United Arab Emirates, the Middle East Economic Survey said.

The decision would lower Abu Dhabi's production to 1.15 million barrels per day (bpd) in August, the authoritative newsletter said.

With Dubai production running at 400,000 bpd, this would take total UAE output to just above a 1.5 million bpd ceiling agreed at a crisis meeting of Opec's five Gulf Arab producers in Jeddah two weeks ago.

MEES said the Abu Dhabi National Oil Company had also told its mainly Japanese crude contract customers that August liftings would be cut by 30 per cent.

Chinese energy resources minister Huang has expressed his country's keenness to co-operate with the United Arab Emirates in the oil sector.

"We could send a mission to the UAE who in turn could send a delegation to Beijing to discuss co-operation," he said in a statement published at the weekend by the UAE petroleum and mineral resources ministry's magazine "Petroleum and Industry."

He pointed out that his government was backing Opec's policies, but was against a rapid increase in oil prices.

"We do not want prices to rise rapidly or decline rapidly as this will harm the world economy," the magazine quoted him as saying.

"The Chinese government hopes Opec will remain united to stabilise prices and increase them gradually every year," he affirmed.

The official said China had no formal relationship with Opec but had sent observers to the organisation's conferences.

"As far as Opec's production and pricing policy is concerned, we support this policy," Yicheng stressed. China produced about 2.7 million bpd of oil in 1989.

The minister pointed out that Kuwait had started investing in his country and he hoped the UAE would follow suit, adding that China had borrowed about \$40 billion from abroad and was planning to seek further financial help from foreign sources.

Qatar's Interior Minister Sheikh Abdullah Bin Khalifa Al Thani said on Monday he was optimistic about the outcome of Thursday's Opec meeting in Geneva.

The Qatar News Agency (QNA), received in Nicosia, said the minister was talking to reporters before leaving for Geneva at the head of his country's delegation to the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec) conference.

Sheikh Abdullah is acting for Finance and Petroleum Minister Sheikh Abdul-Aziz Bin Khalifa Al Thani and took his place at the Gulf Arab Opec members discussions on oil prices and quotas in Jeddah earlier this month when producers agreed to cut output.

The agreement by five key Opec Gulf oil producers in Jeddah this month will be the basis of a new output pact by the cartel, the official United Arab Emirates news agency WAM reported on Monday.

"The Jeddah agreement ... will be the base of an accord ... by Opec on production and prices," the agency quoted unidentified oil sources as saying.

Saudi Arabia said it was confident the Gulf accord it masterminded in Jeddah to cut Opec output was still firm.

Lebanon

Long lines of fleeing villagers trudged through the rugged hills of the province, carrying household necessities under their arms and on their heads.

Most of them sought refuge at south Lebanon's major cities of Sidon, Tyre and Nabatiyeh.

Others fled to open fields, sleeping at night in cars.

"Jarjou is almost completely deserted with few people and many Hezbollah fighters there," said one refugee, who asked not to be named.

"The town has been turned into a pile of debris," he said.

Police estimated that not more than 50 elderly people of Jarjou's original 5,000 inhabitants remain in the town.

About 50,000 people fled the Apple province since the latest round of Amal-Hezbollah clashes broke out.

Hezbollah appealed to the International Committee of the Red Cross to remove corpses

decomposing under a blazing sun in Jarjou and pledged to facilitate the humanitarian mission.

The fighting erupted last Monday when Hezbollah attacked and seized Jarjou, an Amal stronghold, seeking to expand its area of control as far as the Mediterranean coast to open a badly needed supply line to Iran.

A 600-strong Palestinian force, drawn mainly from PLO chairman Yasser Arafat's mainstream Fatah group, was deployed last Tuesday along a 7-mile-long (12-km) line, ostensibly to stop the fighting.

Amal militiamen, supported by the Palestinians, retook Jarjou in ferocious battles on Saturday. But the fundamentalists drove the more secular Amal out of town to the western entrance of Jarjou in close-quarter combat Sunday.

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Hezbollah wants an Iranian-style Islamic state in Lebanon, which is about 60 per cent Muslim and 40 per cent Christian.

It calls for the destruction of Israel and is hostile to conservative Arab governments.

It reviles the West, is thought to be behind the kidnapping of most of the 15 Western hostages believed held in Lebanon, though it denies the charge, and wants to purge Muslim areas of Lebanon of Western influences.

Kill Stealth bomber: Aspin**Influential Democrat slams B-2**

WASHINGTON, July 23, (UPI): House Armed Services Committee chairman Les Aspin today recommended that after a decade of development and controversy and expenses of nearly \$30 billion, the bantam B-2 Stealth bomber be killed.

In remarks prepared for delivery to the House, the influential Wisconsin Democrat declared, "terminating the B-2 may be the first step in moving toward fiscal reality."

His action puts him at odds with both the administration and the Senate Armed

Services Committee, led by Sam Nunn, Democrat of Georgia, which has recommended that two of the planes be paid for in the fiscal 1991 budget. Defense Secretary Dick Cheney proposed two planes instead of the five initially requested earlier this year when Cheney revised a variety of aircraft programmes and cut the Northrop-built B-2 back from 132 planes to 75.

At the White House, presidential spokesman Martin Fitzwater, restated the adminis-

tration's support for the plane, saying, "we're for it. It's in our budget. We believe it's necessary."

The plane so far has consumed nearly \$30 billion, and 15 aircraft have been approved and are in various stages of production. The full buy of 75 planes is forecast to cost \$62.8 billion, a figure that will boost the per-plane cost, including the research expenses, from an initial level of \$530 million for a buy of 132 planes to \$840 million each.



Two British teenagers, charged with possessing more than 65 pounds (30.5 kg) of heroin, are in good spirits despite the risk of high penalties for drug trafficking, officials said in Bangkok on Monday.

The two suspects, identified as Patricia Ann Cahill, 17, and Karyn Joanne Smith, 19, of Birmingham, were arrested Wednesday night at Bangkok airport.

Police charged them with possessing more than 65 pounds (30.5 kg) of heroin hidden in their suitcases.

The two girls denied the charges, insisting that they were approached by a Chinese man who asked them to carry suitcases which allegedly had heroin hidden in containers of biscuits, tea and coffee.

"She (Cahill) is in a good temper. She can even speak some Thai such as 'Hello, tork and spoon,'" said an official at the Central Observation and Protection Centre for Juvenile Suspects, where Cahill has been detained since Friday.

"We have full facilities here but not freedom. This is a training school not a prison," said the official

who asked not to be identified. The official said the centre started questioning Cambodians to find the reasons for allegedly commanding a crime.

We will question her parents tomorrow (Tuesday) because they are so tired today," she said.

Karyn, one of the teenagers arrested on suspicion of trying to smuggle heroin, is being led by a Thai police officer from her cell to meet her father, Brian Eric Smith (right) at Bangkok's Don Muang police station on Monday. (Reuter wirephoto)

India

Kashmiri Muslim women shout anti-Indian slogans during a protest in downtown Srinagar on Monday against alleged harassment and molestation of women by the Indian security forces in the house-to-house searches. (Reuter wirephoto)

19 killed in Kashmir**Govt employees go on strike**

JAMMU, July 23, (AP): Indian border guards shot and killed 19 Muslim militants in two clashes today as they crossed into India-held Kashmir from Pakistan, officials said.

The officials, who can be identified under briefing regulations, said the fighting erupted when the militants fired at Indian border guards after crossing from Pakistan.

The gunmen were identified as Kashmiri separatists, a group fighting for the independence of Muslim-dominated Jammu-Kashmir, India's only Muslim-majority state.

Elsewhere in Kashmir, at least

six more people were killed today, raising the toll to at least 83 dead since the government launched a crackdown on the separatists last Jan. 20.

Meanwhile, government employees in Kashmir valley went on strike today to protest alleged police excesses. Government offices were closed today in all but Jammu, where Hindus are in a slight majority.

Union officials said about 80 per cent of government workers stayed at home in Srinagar, summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir, India's only Muslim-majority state.

The Indian government,

which has imposed its direct rule on the state, issued a statement saying the workers could face disciplinary action if they went ahead with the strike.

It also said they could be detained for up to 12 months under legislation outlawing strikes in essential services.

The strike excluded emergency hospital and fire services as well as the police.

The main target of the strike was the methods of the security forces, widely accused of human rights abuses in the fight against the militants which erupted in January.

The composition of the Indian delegation suggests that the two leaders might concentrate on new economic co-operation.

INTERNATIONAL

ARAB TIMES, TUESDAY, JULY 24, 1990

Rushdie raps UK officials for banning film depicting his death

LONDON, July 23, (Reuters): Author Salman Rushdie has attacked British authorities for banning a Pakistan-made fantasy film which depicts him as a drunken pro-Israeli playboy killed by a bolt of lightning for attacks on the Prophet Mohammed (PBUH).

Friends of Rushdie, in hiding after an order from Iran's spiritual leader Ayatollah Khomeini that he die for blaspheming Islam, said the decision to ban the film "International Guerrillas" should be taken by a court and not by censors.

Frances D'Souza of the Salman Rushdie Defence Committee, who spoke to the author on Sunday about the ban, said he opposed it. ("He) felt the film should have a chance to

be tested in court and to ban it without the public having had a chance to view it is ... not acceptable," she said.

Rushdie, who was born to Muslim parents in India but holds British citizenship, has been in hiding since February last year when Khomeini told Muslims to kill him for insulting Islam in his book "The Satanic Verses".

A Pakistani-owned video company in London which holds the world distribution rights to the film said Britain's Board of Film Classification said it could be criminally libellous.

"Many Muslims will protest to their members of Parliament," Mohammed Fayyaz of the Tooting Video Centre said in an interview with Britain's Independent Radio News yes-

terday. "This is (a case of) double standards."

The classification board informed the company of the ban by letter. Officials at the board were not available to comment on the decision, but the Sunday Independent newspaper said it was taken on advice from British police.

The board had said it might reconsider its decision if death calls and direct references to the film said Britain's Board of Film Classification said it could be criminally libellous.

In the film an international syndicate tries to destabilise the Muslim world by commissioning a book critical of Islam.

Its makers have said the characters are

fictional but are intended to show that the protectors of Islam will one day track down Rushdie, who has lived at secret addresses under police guard since the Iranian death call.

The movie, which shows the Rushdie character killing and torturing Muslims, has played to packed houses in Pakistan and unofficial copies of the video are already circulating among Muslim communities in Britain.

Authors who formed a pressure group to support Rushdie's right to free expression have said the film should not be banned if it does not break the law.

In March 1989 Iran broke diplomatic rela-

tions with London over "The Satanic Verses", after Britain refused to condemn the book.

The Salman Rushdie Defence Committee issued a statement in London saying the ban was an "act of prior restraint".

"Mr Rushdie believes that regardless of its content the film should be in the public domain so that any libel or offence may be dealt with according to the due process of law," it added.

"A film distributor has said he may go to court in a bid to overturn a ban on the movie which depicts Rushdie, as a drunkard torturing and shooting Muslims, it was reported today.

Mohammed Fayyaz, owner of a video centre in London, which has world-wide rights to the film, said today he would go to court if necessary to overturn the ban. (Kuna).

Juggling success in 3 professions

Newman races on

CLEVELAND, July 23, (AP): The precision-cropped hair is mostly gray, but those famous blue eyes remain clear, his skin unlined and his body trim.

At 64, Academy award-winning actor Paul Newman races on, juggling success in three high-pressure, demanding professions: acting, the food business and auto racing. And his passions run high in all.

When he's not directing, acting or promoting his line of "Newman's Own" food products in the United States, he takes to the track. With his latest movie, "Mr and Mrs Bridge," ready for release this fall, Newman's ready to race.

This season, he's driving a limited schedule on the SCCA's Trans-Am circuit as the teammate of 22-year-old Scott Sharp, the son of Bob Sharp, co-owner of Newman-Sharp Racing. Newman has watched the younger driver improve almost daily and lamented one small part of ageing.

"A young driver like Scott, who's got a great gift, just keeps going faster and faster," Newman said during an interview before finishing 16th in a recent Trans-Am race in Cleveland.

"Young kids like Scott think about winning. I think about whether I'm going to have a pulse," he joked.

"When you get older and older, you start slowing down. Everything is off one-fifth of 1 percent. Your eyes are a little off, your reflexes touch — everything. You multiply that by just a factor of 1 percent, that's two or three seconds a lap."

But, Newman, whose interest in auto racing was generated on the set of "Winning" in 1968, doesn't regret his late start in the sport he now loves.

"I started at the right time. I had the right kind of equipment," he said. "I don't regret anything. It came at the right time. I was getting bored acting."

Asked if racing revived his interest in other things, he joked that his wife, actress Joanne Woodward, says it saved their marriage. Woodward co-stars in "Mr and Mrs Bridge," a chronicle of a middle-class American family.

Turning serious again, Newman said: "You become passion-



Actor Newman as former governor of Louisiana, Earl K. Long.

said. "You think of yourself as a shy, retiring whatever it is, and some other people will see you in an entirely different way."

Ivan Lendl as tennis star Ivan Lendl as tennis star

is seen with a gift. The gift came before the work, but not according to Lendl. He says if he lays off for three weeks, he's garbage.

You have to constantly learn. Obviously, you have to start with some kind of gift, but people don't understand that ... I don't have a gift for anything. I've only had a gift of pursuit.

That's certainly true in acting. I can't look at the work I did 20 years ago. I can't even watch it.

In all the things I started to attack — football, tennis — I had no gift for it at all. I had no gift for racing, either. It's just something he played an Indy-car driver in "Winning."

What was it that attracted him to the sport?

"I don't know," he said. "It was just out there, like anything else, to be learned. I started off very slowly, very cautious, as I start off everything."

Since he has been successful at so much, people tend to believe things come easily to Newman. He insists the opposite is true.

The light that you think you emanate is not necessarily the light that other people see," he

said. "aw, Paul, you look good at everything you do."

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PART I:

Tick [] the correct block/s.

1 The largest Muslim country in population is:

- () Saudi Arabia.
- () Pakistan
- () Indonesia

2 The Muslim population in the world is about:

- () 1,250 million
- () 1,000 million
- () 950 million

3 The Muslim countries that participated in the 5th Islamic Summit Conference held in Kuwait (1985) were:

- () 65 countries
- () 46 countries
- () 35 countries

4 The first pillar of Islam is:

- () Salat
- () Shahadat
- () Zakat
- () Siyam
- () Hajj

5 Put the following Religions in the correct chronological order (number them):

- () Christianity
- () Islam
- () Judaism

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Reviewing North's trial embarrassing

Prosecutors may decide to appeal the court-ordered examination

WASHINGTON, July 23. (AP): Now that a federal appeals court has vacated all three of the convictions in the celebrated Iran-Contra trial of former National Security Adviser Oliver North, prosecutors must decide what to do.

The court vacated the convictions on Friday because of the possibility the case was tainted by North's televised testimony to Congress. North testified before Congress with a grant of immunity

from prosecution.

In addition to sending the entire case back to US district court Gerhard Gesell, the court reversed one conviction outright — that North altered and destroyed National Security Council documents. That means the only way the conviction might be reinstated would be through a new trial.

The prospect of reviewing every single word of testimony given at North's trial is so daunting

prosecutors may decide instead to appeal the court-ordered examination.

They also could drop the case altogether, but that's unlikely given the track record of the Iran-Contra prosecutor's office, which has been aggressively pursuing the arms and money scandal for more than 3 1/2 years.

North was convicted in May 1989 on three of 12 charges — aiding and abetting an obstruction of

Congress, altering and destroying National Security Council documents and accepting an illegal gratuity.

The charges related to the Iran-Contra scandal, which involved advisers to former President Ronald Reagan diverting money from the secret sale of weapons to Iran to the Nicaraguan Contra rebels at a time when US aid to the rebels was outlawed.



Former White House aide Oliver North (left) talks to reporters after a US Court of Appeals overturned his conviction. (Reuter wirephoto)

Cops raid weekend acid party at Leeds

LEEDS, England, July 23. (AP): Police have released 836 people arrested at a weekend party where drugs were seized, and charges may be filed in some cases, authorities said today.

"We have been branding as killjoys, stopping people enjoying themselves, but we are concerned about the safety of people," said assistant chief constable Denis O'Toole.

O'Toole said police were seeking to identify the organisers, drug dealers and those responsible for the "extreme violence" after police raid an "acid house" party yesterday morning.

The raid at a disused warehouse in northern England started a battle in which police said they were pelted with rocks, bricks, broken glass and smashed furniture.

Acid house, synthesised music with a simple beat, often is associated with taking hallucinogenic drugs.

The raid took place in Gildersome near Leeds, 185 miles (297 kilometres) north of London.

An undetermined number of police, believed to be several hundred drafted in from all over west Yorkshire, took part in the raid.

Police said they seized LSD, marijuana and amphetamines in the raid at a disused warehouse in northern England. They said the drugs had a street value of more than £2,000 (\$3,600).

The police said three of their officers needed hospital treatment, one of them for a gashed jaw when he was hit by a plank and the others for injuries to faces and hands. They said they were pelted with rocks, bricks, broken glass and smashed furniture.

There were no reports of injuries among those at the party.

Police said those arrested — for alleged drug possession, breach of the peace and criminal damage — were taken to 30 police stations across west Yorkshire and detained while identities and addresses were checked. Most of those arrested were released later in the day, police said.

It was the biggest such raid to date in Britain. West Yorkshire police had arrested 236 people at an acid house party near Wakefield in June.

There have been similar but much smaller police raids on acid house parties elsewhere in England, usually after residents nearby complained of cars and motorcycles arriving in the middle of the night and of loud, continuous music.

Pollard to divorce jailed wife

NEW YORK, July 23. (Reuter): Jonathan Pollard, sentenced by a US court to life in prison in 1987 for passing secret documents to Israel, said in a statement released on Saturday that his decision to divorce his jailed wife was his alone.

In the statement released by Pollard's rabbi here, the convicted spy said his marriage to Anne Pollard, imprisoned for aiding and abetting him, had been in jeopardy for some time.

Rabbi Avi Weiss said in the statement that Pollard had decided to speak out about his decision after seeing "distortions" in news media reports of his earlier announcement. Weiss did not elaborate.

"The decision to seek a divorce is mine and mine alone," Pollard was quoted as saying. "It was reached after a long and agonising reflection. I was not influenced by any party."

"Certainly, the decision file for divorce should not come as a surprise to Anne. The marriage has been in jeopardy for some time and, in fact, I was not the first one to raise the issue."

Mrs Pollard, 29, was sentenced in 1987 to two concurrent five-year terms for her role as an accessory to the spying operation. She suffers from an intestinal disease that leaves her hunched over the often unable to ingest food.

She charged last year that she had received inadequate care in a medical prison in Minnesota, but a federal magistrate ruled that she had to remain there.

Missing woman mystery cracks chess puzzle

LONDON, July 23. (AP): A chess expert drew inspiration from Sherlock Holmes and Lewis Carroll to crack a crime that had stumped police, he said today.

Police believe a missing woman is dead and is buried somewhere in Ireland and the chess expert's work "would appear to reinforce these views," detective superintendent Roy Fletcher of Lancashire police said today.

The puzzle is a crude map and a series of moves for a black king, a black queen, a black pawn and "white king, all dead."

Raymond Keene, chess correspondent of Times of London and an international grand master, said the puzzle's author shows "tremendous intellectual arrogance, allied with a perverted ingenuity and rooted in the belief that he can dangle all sorts of intellectual clues in front of the police's nose without their being able to solve them."

Fletcher said Therese Terry, 43, has been missing since January. He said a suspect, Colin English, had been arrested in June and charged with fraud in relation to funds taken from Mrs Terry's bank account.

"While in custody he drew a map which says gives the answer to where she is buried," Fletcher said. "He claims she died at her own hand."

Keene, who was given the puzzle on Friday, said he was unable to pin down the burial site, but "it is my firm belief that the body is located ... some miles

northwest of Limerick."

Fletcher said he planned to contact Irish police today "with a view to localising their search to the area indicated by the map."

Keene wrote in today's edition of the Times that the diagram was a crude mirror image of southern Ireland, rotated 90 degrees to put east at the bottom, and that Roman numerals stood for various places in England and Ireland.

He believes the black king is the suspect, the black queen is the victim, the black pawn is the suspect's brother, and the white pawns are the police — "a scarcely veiled insult to the suspect's assessment of the competence of the police force."

Keene wrote that the moves appear to show events between Jan 18, when Mrs Terry left Lancashire for London, and Jan 23, when the suspect returned from Ireland. He said the moves indicate financial transactions that tally with police evidence of the use of Mrs Terry's visa card.

Keene said he was encouraged in solving the problem by recalling a Sherlock Holmes story called "The Dancing Men," in which Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's fictional detective breaks a code based on figures of dancing stick men.

Keene said the moves are made by the black pieces. That and the mirror-image motif recalled Lewis Carroll's story in which Alice enters a world of reflections peopled mainly by chess pieces.

'US ignored drugs plan'

Letter sent to Bush

BANGKOK, Thailand, July 23. (AP): Khun Sa, Burma's reputed opium warlord, says he sent US President George Bush a six-year plan to rid the Golden Triangle of narcotics but has had no response, a Thai newspaper reported yesterday.

Khun Sa said he sent a letter and videotape to Bush. He blamed Washington's rejection of this and other offers to eradicate drugs for a sharp rise in opium production in the Triangle this year, the Bangkok Post said.

The Triangle is where the borders of Thailand, Laos and Burma meet to form one of the world's major sources of illicit drugs.

US officials announced in March that Khun Sa had been indicted on heroin trafficking charges in a US district court. But they did not say how they would get Khun Sa out of his jungle lairs in eastern Burma and put him on trial.

The newspaper said Khun Sa denied the charges, and said he only taxed traffickers travelling through areas controlled by his army, which ostensibly is fighting Burma's government for autonomy for the Shan ethnic minority.

He vowed to fight the US charges "like a cornered dog."

The Bangkok Post quoted him as saying the heroin refineries in Shan state were owned by people of several nationalities, including Americans.

The Nation newspaper said yesterday that Khun Sa was interviewed Tuesday at a mountainous hideout in Shan state.

It quoted him as saying that if



Drug warlord Khun Sa smiles as he listens to reporters questions during an interview at a military base in Burma's Shan state. The opium kingpin accused the United States of having no real intention of resolving the narcotics problem. (Reuter wirephoto)

UK, Spain to fight drugs on Gibraltar

MADRID, July 23. (Reuter): British and Spanish officials conferred in Madrid today on joint action against drug smuggling around the British colony of Gibraltar — activities Spain has called "a cancerous tumour" on its south coast.

A British embassy spokesman said those taking part included Barry Price, head of Britain's National Drugs Intelligence Unit, Gibraltar police chief Joe Canapa, Scotland Yard detectives, Pedro Nicolas, director-general of Spain's Investigative Police, Colonel Arsenio Ayuso of the Civil Guard and Spanish diplomats.

"We hope it will lead to increased co-operation, but there is already a large degree of co-operation," said the spokesman.

Spain has a long-standing claim to Gibraltar, which was ceded to Britain under the Treaty of Utrecht in 1713, and alleges the tiny colony is a centre for drug smuggling and for laundering its proceeds — charges which local officials deny.

It has asked Gibraltar to tighten banking controls and anti-drug policing in the colony but British officials say the Rock already has tougher financial legislation and anti-drug smuggling laws than Spain.

Bankers in Gibraltar fear that Spain's insistence that the colony is a money-laundering centre is damaging its reputation as a budding offshore financial centre.

British officials play down the importance of the Rock as an entry-point for drugs into Spain and say smugglers bringing drugs from Africa are unlikely to choose it as a dropping-off point when they drop drugs directly onto Spanish beaches.

The people in Shan state, he said, have to grow poppy "to buy rice, clothing and blankets."

He said there were more than 100 heroin laboratories in areas that he taxed, the Nation reported.

Khun Sa said he did not believe the United States would invade Burma to arrest him in the way that they invaded Panama to get Gen Manuel Noriega.



Parade in Bogota

Soldiers from an elite anti-guerrilla unit parade in downtown Bogota on July 20, as part of the festivities on the 180th anniversary of Colombian independence. Colombia is undergoing one of the worst crises of its history, waging a war against the drug cartels. (Reuter wirephoto)

Doe vows to stay, fight to the finish

Convinced he is invincible, black magic will save him

MONROVIA, July 23. (AP): President Samuel Doe says he won't leave the besieged capital until the civil war is decided. Sources say that at any rate, fleeing would not be easy because the soldiers guarding Doe won't let him go without them.

The 500-member presidential guard, made up of soldiers from Doe's Krahn tribe, fear massacre at the hands of the rebels, who have fought their way to within a mile (1-1/2 kilometres) of Doe's oceanfront mansion.

The rebels, who are mostly from the rival Gio and Mano ethnic groups, were locked in street combat with Doe's regular troops final rebel assault, said a diplomatic source, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

The president remained "convinced he is invincible," the source said, adding that he expected Doe to fight to the finish. The source said Doe was "relying increasingly on his belief that black magic will save him."

Rebel troops have overrun all of the Bushrod Island district containing the city's port, fuel and the storage depots and repair shops.

Yesterday, they were trying to capture the two bridges leading into the centre of Monrovia. Fighting was heavy, and Doe's forces fired their 40-tube, Romanian-made, multiple-rocket launcher toward the rebel-held bridge across the St. Paul's river north of the city.

Doe's eight-story mansion was like a desolate military camp, with soldiers roaming the otherwise empty hallways. The president was closeted in his fifth-floor apartment.

Sources inside the mansion said Doe's Krahn bodyguards had gathered Saturday with the president and told him they would refuse to allow him to leave unless their collective safety was guaranteed.

The Krahn rebels fear the rebels will kill them in revenge for the killings of many civilians who support the rebels.

Some retribution killings already have been reported by journalists with the rebels.

In exchange for allowing Doe to leave, the Krahn soldiers seek safe passage to their home territory in Grand Gedeh county. Grand Gedeh is Doe's last remaining stronghold, apart from his patch of downtown Monrovia.

But Charles Taylor's rebel National Patriotic Front would fiercely resist any effort by Doe to evacuate his forces to his home region. With the Gio and Mano tribes — among the country's largest — firmly on Taylor's side, the civil war has turned into an outright tribal conflict.

The rebels began their offensive in December and effectively control two-thirds of the country.

They have accused Doe, who took power in a 1980 coup, of corruption, mismanagement and human rights abuses. Taylor has promised to maintain close ties with the United States if he comes to power, but he has ruled out immediate elections.

The African nation, founded by freed American slaves 150 years ago, has traditionally had close ties with Washington.

The US embassy has been trying to persuade Doe to flee the capital.

Washington refused to send in a peacekeeping force and on Saturday Doe ordered the American military attaché expelled, accusing him of helping the rebels. The United States denied the accusations.

Representatives of the government and the rebels have met intermittently for peace talks in neighbouring Sierra Leone, but the negotiations failed to make any progress.

Washington refused to send in a peacekeeping force and on Saturday Doe ordered the American military attaché expelled, accusing him of helping the rebels. The United States denied the accusations.

Conservatives have held a slim 5-4 majority on the court and liberals fear Brennan's successor could push the court further to the right and jeopardise the interpretation of the US constitutional right to abortion.

Bush is a Republican. Both houses of Congress are dominated by Republicans.

Republican Sen. Bob Dole, on another news programme yesterday said there was "a very real question ... on whether the Senate would go along with" a nominee who had been selected because he or she would vote a particular way on abortion.

In recent years the Republican Party's national programme has advocated restricting situations where abortions are permitted. The opposition Democrats have generally supported the right to an abortion.

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1	Scraper WABCO 339F, chassis No. GP32091BPA7-M, engine No. 12VA061817	1979	70,000	Aqaba	36	Electric Generator with Extendable Light Mast POLYMA PL12-9, chassis No. 52850, engine No. 654852	1979	4,500	Aqaba	66	Concrete Flooter DYNAPAC BG-35, chassis No. 946900	1980	500	Bar
2	Scraper WABCO 339F, chassis No. GP32092BPA7-M, engine No. 12VA061610	1979	70,000	Aqaba	37	Water Treatment Plant HIDROTEHNIK HC-R05	1985	100,000	Aqaba	67	Concrete Flooter DYNAPAC BG-33, chassis No. 946901	1980	500	Bar
3	Scraper WABCO 339F, chassis No. GP32095BPA7-M, engine No. 12VA064580	1979	70,000	Aqaba	38	Forklift LITOSTROY-V-10 IHS-402, chassis No. 670167118, engine No. 851001492	1985	20,000	Aqaba	68	Concrete Flooter DYNAPAC BG-35, chassis No. 945616	1980	500	Bar
4	Bulldozer CAT 824C, engine No. 70V8370	1979	65,000	Aqaba	39	Water Chiller CARRIER G30-105, chassis No. 05910	1980	8,500	Aqaba	69	Asphalt Power-finisher ABG 2809, chassis No. 6247351, engine No. 50713120040730,	1980	45,000	Bar
5	Soil Mixer BOMAG MPH100, chassis No. 85313, engine No. 8VA489515	1979	52,000	Aqaba	40	Smooth Roller DYNAPAC CA-25	1987	22,000	Aqaba	70	Vibrator DYNAPAC CM-15	1980	300	Bar
6	Soil Mixer BOMAG MPH100, chassis No. 85315, engine No. 8VA489523	1979	52,000	Aqaba	41	Sheep's Foot Roller DYNAPAC CA-25	1987	25,000	Aqaba	71	Vibrator DYNAPAC CM-15	1980	300	Bar
7	Vibrating Roller DYNAPAC CA-50A, chassis No. 404D24, engine No. 90N81417	1980	38,000	Aqaba	42	Wood Planer A. SPASIC IS-504, chassis No. 10193	1985	1,100	Aqaba	72	Vibrator DYNAPAC CM-15	1980	300	Bar
8	Electric Generator CAT SR-43408, chassis No. A548H674, engine No. 62816078	1980	9,000	Aqaba	43	Tipper Truck MAN 32.291 DHK, chassis No. 50713120040730, engine No. 50713120040731	1985	35,000	Aqaba	73	Vibrator DYNAPAC CM-15	1980	300	Bar
9	Electric Generator POLYMA PD-216/5, chassis No. 51078, engine No. 8116897	1979	6,500	Aqaba	44	Tipper Truck MAN 32.281 DHK, chassis No. 358507903131113	1985	35,000	Aqaba	74	Vibrator DYNAPAC CM-15	1980	300	Bar
10	Mobile Workshop FAP 14K, chassis No. 73315, engine No. 106	1980	17,000	Aqaba	45	Tipper Truck MAN 32.281 DHK, chassis No. 5071308M040545, engine No. 3580780263113	1985	35,000	Aqaba	75	Vibrator DYNAPAC CM-15	1980	300	Bar
11	Tractor MAN 32.280 DHS, chassis No. 42301880-174, engine No. 3283575082-3110	1980	25,000	Aqaba	46	Tipper Truck MAN 32.281 DHK, chassis No. 5071308M040545, engine No. 3580780263113	1985	35,000	Aqaba	76	Electric Generator WESTCOPower chassis No. 91032719, engine No. 4532S2T231-06	1980	1,000	Bar
12	Tipping Semi-trailer GORICA PK-35, chassis No. 91724	1980	4,000	Aqaba	47	Truck Tipper MAN 32.281 DHK, chassis No. 5071315M040847, engine No. 35850820353113	1985	35,000	Aqaba	77	Electric Generator BRUSH 17.5KVA, chassis No. 30581-5, engine No. 219932603	1980	1,000	Bar
13	Water Tanker MAN 32.280 DHK, chassis No. 4230870859, engine No. 3283960453310	1980	12,000	Aqaba	48	Truck Tipper MAN 32.281 DHK, chassis No. 5071308M040545, engine No. 3580780263113	1985	35,000	Aqaba	78	Electric Generator LISTER, chassis No. SF32803, engine No. 219932603	1980	1,000	Bar
14	Truck Mixer MAN 32.280 DHK, chassis No. 42301930169, engine No. 32835760494410	1980	13,500	Aqaba	49	Tractor MAN 32.280 DFT, chassis No. 42527472754, engine No. 358507903131110	1980	28,000	Aqaba	79	Water Pump DEUTZ, chassis No. 5616077	1981	1,000	Bar
15	Bulldozer CAT D9H chassis No. 90V8336, engine No. 97U1735	1979	105,000	Aqaba	50	Tractor MAN 32.280 DFT, chassis No. 42533728314, engine No. 3284075020-3110; 1980	35,000	Aqaba	80	Water Pump WESTCO, chassis No. 8-037, engine No. 3388-ST3A2907	1980	1,500	Bar	
16	Loader CAT 980C, chassis No. 63X02530, engine No. 70V10302	1979	65,000	Aqaba	51	Including tipping semi-trailer GORICA 3ST, chassis No. 6718, model year 1980; semi-trailer KOMERC-GOSA 301, chassis No. 8031, model year 1980; and semi-trailer cement bulk carrier GOSA 26M3, chassis No. 8666; model year 1980	12,000	Aqaba	81	Water Pump ALCON, engine No. 8162-02-04	1980	1,000	Bar	
17	Vibrating Roller DYNAPAC, CC-50A, chassis No. 4050-24, engine No. 90N40806	1980	35,000	Aqaba	52	Tractor MAN 32.280 DFT, chassis No. 42533728314, engine No. 3284075020-3110; 1980	35,000	Aqaba	82	Electric Welding Machine LINKON, chassis No. 3584N-530515E, engine No. 908037	1980	1,500	Bar	
18	Vibrating Roller DYNAPAC CA-515; chassis No. #79150-1, engine No. 90N39533	1980	25,000	Aqaba	53	Tractor MAN 32.280 DFT, chassis No. 42533728314, engine No. 3284075020-3110; 1980	35,000	Aqaba	83	Electric Welding Machine LINKON	1980	1,500	Bar	
19	Pneumatic Roller HAMM GRV15; chassis No. 2513195, engine No. 6261031	1980	12,000	Aqaba	54	Tractor MAN 32.280 DFT, chassis No. 42533728314, engine No. 3284075020-3110; 1980	35,000	Aqaba	84	Welding Transformer RADE KONCAR	1980	60	Bar	
20	Vibrating Sheep's Foot Roller DYNAPAC CA-25PD, chassis No. 4972481, engine No. 90N50373	1980	25,000	Aqaba	55	Truck with hydraulic crane FAP 1616, chassis No. 4577139, engine No. 125566	1980	5,000	Aqaba	85	Welding Transformer RADE KONCAR	1980	60	Bar
21	Motor Grader 14 OKTOBAR 14G, chassis No. 96U3870, engine No. 3N85018	1979	45,000	Aqaba	56	Flotted Lorry MERCEDES 1213/420K, chassis No. 3679111302985, engine No. 36791040004826	1985	13,000	Aqaba	86	Forklift JUMBO, chassis No. 91918, engine No. 172288	1980	12,000	Bar
22	Mobile Air Compressor FAGRAM PZ-360, chassis No. 8628266, engine No. 841006534	1985	18,000	Aqaba	57	Refrigerator Truck MERCEDES 1213, chassis No. 45700513002361, engine No. 3621880102	1985	28,000	Aqaba	87	Mobile Crane DWH OMEGA 20, chassis No. SR-9843	1980	28,000	Bar
23	Asphalt Plant MARINI M150E-205	1970	215,000	Aqaba	58	Water Tanker MAN 32.280 DHK, chassis No. 4230860840, engine No. 308396704-3310	1979	15,000	Aqaba	88	Field Tractor Trailer IMT, chassis No. 1926, model year 1984	1980	350	Bar
24	Bitumen Heater MARINI FF290	1981	62,000	Aqaba	59	Water Tanker MAN 32.280 DHK, chassis No. 4230860840, engine No. 308396704-3310	1979	20,000	Aqaba	89	Field Tractor Trailer IMT, chassis No. 1926, model year 1984	1980	350	Bar
25	Mobile Bitumen Tank Sprayer MAN 32.281.8000L/MARINI	1985/80	28,000	Aqaba	60	Water Tanker MAN 32.280 DHK, chassis No. 42308100844, engine No. 3283860483110	1979	22,000	Aqaba	90	Semi-trailer KOMERC GOSA, chassis No. 8847	1980	3,500	Bar
26	Asphalt Paver-Finisher ABG 410S, chassis No. 213498, engine No. 8289395	1980	65,000	Aqaba	61	Water Tanker MAN 32.280 DHK, chassis No. 42308100844, engine No. 3283860483110	1979	22,000	Aqaba	91	Cement Bulk Carrier GOSA FPPMCH27, chassis No. 86844	1980	8,000	Bar
27	Bar Bending Machine PEDING-HOUSE DIA 32	1979	12,000	Aqaba	62	Water Tanker MAN 32.280 DHK, chassis No. 42308100844, engine No. 3283860483110	1979	22,000	Aqaba	92	Cement Bulk Carrier GOSA FPPMCH27, chassis No. 86845	1980	10,000	Bar
28	Aggregate Spreader DYNAPAC HS355, chassis No. 428	1981	2,000	Aqaba	63	Water Tanker MAN 32.280 DHK, chassis No. 42308100844, engine No. 3283860483110	1979	22,000	Aqaba	93	Cement Bulk Carrier GOSA FPPMCH27, chassis No. 86857	1980	9,000	Bar
29	Aggregate Spreader DYNAPAC HS355, chassis No. 428	1981	2,000	Aqaba	64	Water Tanker MAN 32.280 DHK, chassis No. 42308100844, engine No. 3283860483110	1979	22,000	Aqaba	94	Cement Bulk Carrier GOSA FPPMCH27, chassis No. 86861	1980	9,000	Bar
30	Electric Generator CAT SR43408, chassis No. 49B47333, engine No. 87U5644	1980	13,000	Aqaba	65	Water Tanker MAN 32.280 DHK, chassis No. 42308100844, engine No. 3283860483110	1979	22,000	Aqaba	95	Excavator RADOGO DAKIC G-1000, chassis No. 357, engine No. 851001644	1985	36,000	Bar
31	Electric Generator CAT SR43408, chassis No. 49B47333, engine No. 87U5644	1980	13,000	Aqaba	66	Water Tanker MAN 32.280 DHK, chassis No. 42308100844, engine No. 3283860483110	1979	22,000	Aqaba	96	Excavator 14 OKTOBAR TG140B, chassis No. 30244, engine No. 144288	1985	30,000	Bar
32	Electric Generator CAT SR43408, chassis No. 49B47333, engine No. 67U2036	1980	15,000	Aqaba	67	Water Tanker MAN 32.280 DHK, chassis No. 42308100844, engine No. 3283860483110	1979	22,000	Aqaba	97	Excavator 14 OKTOBAR TG140B, chassis No. 30245, engine No. 144263	1985	30,000	Bar
33	Electric Generator POLYMA MLO/245T, chassis No. 5124, engine No. 43038160484101	1980	3,500	Aqaba	68	Water Tanker MAN 32.280 DHK, chassis No. 42308100844, engine No. 3283860483110	1979	22,000	Aqaba	98	Loader 14 OKTOBAR ULT220, chassis No. 5303, engine No. 148014	1985	53,000	Bar
34	Electric Generator INTER-SCH													



South Korea's main opposition leader Kim Dae-jung leads 79 other parliamentarians in resigning from the National Assembly yesterday to back demands for new elections. (Reuter wirephoto)



South Korean President Roh Tae-woo (left) orders his cabinet on July 21 to go ahead with preparations to temporarily open Seoul's tightly-sealed borders with communist North Korea in mid-August despite a rebuff from Pyongyang. North Korea set strict conditions on the border-opening, including the repeal of Seoul's security laws. (Reuter wirephoto)



South Korean Defence Minister Lee Sang-hoon (right) proposes talks with North Korea on forming an investigation team to verify the existence of alleged "concrete wall" along the border yesterday during a joint news conference with Unification Minister Hong Sung-chul (centre) and Justice Minister Yi Jong. (Reuter wirephoto)

Mass rally planned

80 deputies quit in Seoul

SEOUL, July 23. (Agencies): South Korea took a new move today to realize "grand inter-Korean exchanges of people" next month and North Korea sought to remove arms and guards from Panmunjom to allow the truce village to be the site of a mass rally of South and North Koreans.

In Seoul, ministers of national unification, defence and justice proposed separate meetings of military officials and legal experts of the two Koreas on Friday to discuss demands North Korea set forth as conditions for cross-border flows of visitors.

At Panmunjom 35 miles (56 km) north of Seoul, North Korea met the US-led United Nations Command (UNC) and asked that the two sides withdraw weapons and military personnel from the truce site to allow a gathering of Koreans to take place in mid-August.

North Korea also sent identical letters to President Roh Tae-Woo, Prime Minister Kang Young-Hoon and opposition leaders Kim Dae-Jung and Lee Ki-Tack proposing a meeting on Friday of four officials from each side representing the government and political parties.

Defence Minister Lee Sang-Hoon said three military experts from each side meet on Friday at Panmunjom to discuss a North Korean demand for the demolition of a border concrete wall allegedly built by the South.

Lee said North Korea may check any part of the border areas in the South to ascertain the presence of the alleged wall but the North should allow the South to conduct a similar on-the-spot border check in North Korea.

The defence minister proposed that a public investigation be also conducted on underground tunnels North Korea built along the border. Four such tunnels have so far been found but the North has denied responsibility for them.

Lee said there is no wall sealing off the 150 km (155 mile) border between the two Koreas. What exist are anti-tank barriers, 5-6 metres (yards) high, extending 30 km (18.6 miles) of the border, he said.

Justice Minister Lee Jong-Nam said three legal experts from each side get together on Friday and discuss without restrictions North Korean demands for the scrapping of the national security law and the release of those jailed for illegal trips to the North.

Opposition lawmakers carried out their threat to quit the National Assembly today to force new elections.

Assembly Speaker Park Kyu-kyu indicated that he will not accept the opposition resignation. The ruling Democratic Liberal Party, which controls more than two thirds of the 299 parliamentary seats, decided to turn down the opposition bid to leave parliament.



An elderly Mongolian voter inside his yurt in the hilly region of Gachuur, inside the capital Ulan Bator on July 22. Mongolians vote in the initial stage of the first multi-party elections.

Mongolians flock to vote in first free polls

'Results not yet clear'

BELJING, July 23. (UPI): Mongolia's first multi-party election was conducted fairly and in an atmosphere of excitement, with great numbers of voters enthusiastically casting ballots. Mongolian and foreign observers reported today.

Officials estimated that turnout in yesterday's election was better than 80 per cent in many precincts in the Ulan Bator, the Mongolian capital, according to observers and activists reached by telephone from the Chinese capital.

Election results were expected to be tabulated and released by late today. The top two vote-getters in 430 parliamentary districts will face off in a general election next Sunday. Seats in provincial and local assemblies also were up for grabs in yesterday's polling.

"The elections were quite fair,

but the results are not yet clear," said Sanjaasurenγiyn Oyuna, 26, whose brother Dzorig is a leading candidate of the opposition Mongolian Democratic Union.

"The Democratic Union was showing good results," she added.

"One of a score of foreign diplomats and observers who monitored the voting at 10 urban polling places and one in the countryside said they witnessed no irregularities, although some opposition candidates said they lacked resources to mount effective campaigns."

"Our initial impression is that the primary was very well organized and carried out fairly and honestly," the diplomat said.

Mongolia's five fledgling opposition parties were only legalised two months ago.

Leung, whose feet are not bound, could not remember how large her feet were when bound but said they were much smaller.

"I was engaged when I was eight and my husband's family wanted me to have bound feet by the time I married," she said. "It was very painful and often I cried all night and could not sleep, but I could never leave the bandages off."

The exact origins of foot-binding are not known, but the customs may have started late in the Tang dynasty (618-907 AD) when maidens at a local ruler's court were told to bind their feet like a lotus flower. Golden lotus became a euphemism for bound feet.

The practice was not widespread until after the fourteenth century during the Ming (1368-1644) and Qing (1644-1911) dynasties.

Wealthy families would make their young daughters, whose bones were still soft and pliable, bind their four small toes back and under the sole of their feet and compress the heel and front of the foot together.

The large toe was left extended to give the foot, clad in dainty and embroidered shoes that were part of the bound foot culture, a sharp, pointed appearance.

The ideal length for a golden lotus was three inches (eight cm), though few women could achieve that size.

Leung, whose feet are not bound, could not remember how large her feet were when bound but said they were much smaller.

Women suffered excruciating pain and often complete immobility for the social status of bound feet, which, as it made it impossible for women to work, demonstrated their leisure and affluence.

"My mother said I would be taken for a servant unless I bound my feet," said Leung.

"When my feet were bound I could not walk and was carried about by a maid on her back," she said. "I had nothing to do at home except sewing and embroidery."

The customs also has strong sexual overtones.

Women wore special scarlet shoes in bed at night as the contrast with their skin colour was said to heighten male desire.

"Prostitutes with bound feet — the smaller the better — could ask a higher price," said Elizabeth Sin, an historian at Hong Kong University.

The odour of the feet, which occasionally turned gangrenous, was also said to be erotic.

Leung said she washed her feet every second day and used a powder to absorb the perspiration.

At the turn of the century Western missionaries and liberal Chinese influenced by

Western ideas began to set up "natural foot societies" calling for an end to the custom.

A series of government decrees, after the 1911 revolution that overthrew China's Manchu rulers, outlawed foot-binding and by the 1930s it had largely died out in China.

The colonial government here in Hong Kong didn't legislate against it because they didn't need to — the social movement against it brought it to an end," said Maria Jacobchuk, a researcher of Chinese women's history.

Leung said her husband, whom she married when she was 15, insisted she take off her bindings.

HK woman recalls painful custom of 'foot-binding'

HONG KONG, July 23. (Reuters): Leung Suet-chun is confined to a wheelchair, her deformed feet propped up on supports in front of her.

When 93-year-old Leung was a girl it was too painful for her to walk and she was carried on the back of a maid. For most of her life she could only walk slowly and with difficulty.

Leung is one of Hong Kong's very few remaining "golden lotus" women, who used tight cloth bindings to compress their feet to the tiny size that was once considered both attractive and a sign of breeding.

"My mother told me to start binding my feet when I was nine years old," Leung, who

Strong aftershocks jolt Baguio

Cory refuses to suspend foreign debt payment, calls for more aid

MANILA, July 23. (AP): President Corazon Aquino today asked Congress for more money to rebuild after an earthquake that killed more than 1,000 people. But she rejected calls to finance the recovery by suspending foreign debt payments.

Strong aftershocks today jolted areas of Luzon island struck by the July 16 quake, which measured 7.7 on the Richter scale and was the strongest to hit the Philippines in 14 years.

One aftershock sent hundreds of people rushing into the streets of already devastated Baguio, 130 miles (210 kilometres) to the north.

Official figures put the death toll at 1,055, but the count was expected to rise because

rescuers are continuing to pull bodies from the rubble of collapsed buildings. Presidential adviser Jose de Jesus said 393 were killed in Baguio alone, although figures in Manila put the count there at 232.

Defence Secretary Fidel Ramos, chairman of the National Disaster Co-ordinating Council, said more than 3,000 people were severely injured and nearly 90,000 were left homeless by the quake.

Aquino, in a "state of the nation" address marking the end of Congress' summer recess, asked for 10 billion pesos (\$800,000) "for the repair and reconstruction of permanent structures affected by the recent earthquake."

The House of Representatives unanimously approved the request and referred it to the Senate.

"I should like to thank all of our new friends throughout the world — governments, institutions as well as individuals — for the humanitarian assistance given to our people and the victims of the earthquake," Aquino said.

But she refused to endorse congressional proposals to suspend payments on the country's \$26-billion debt to free money for reconstruction.

"It is also my hope that Congress would share with me the concern that any move we take on the manner of debt repayment must never jeopardise in any way, our painfully built good standing with our creditors," she said.

Pro-government commentators and lawmakers said they were surprised at the lackluster tone of the speech. Several said they expected a rousing "call to arms" in the wake of a major natural disaster.

In Baguio, the search for survivors shifted today to the grim task of recovering the dead. British and other foreign experts declared there were no signs of life in any of the nearly 30 buildings devastated by the tremor.

An aftershock that jolted Baguio at 9:45 am (0445 GMT) sent hundreds of nervous residents fleeing into the streets. Many Baguio residents have been sleeping outdoors since the quake because of the continuing aftershocks.

Seismologists have recorded 629 aftershocks since the quake, 55 of which could be felt.

In Manila, Justice Secretary Franklin Drilon announced he was establishing a commission to consider criminal charges against owners and builders of structures that collapsed during the quake.

Yesterday, out of 100 independent cabinet members acknowledged that his construction firm built the Baguio Hyatt, which collapsed during the quake. But Fiorelio Estuar, secretary of public works and highways, refused to comment on allegations by a prominent civil engineer that the Hyatt was structurally unsound.

"There are many factors to consider before you can pinpoint where the fault lies," Estuar said.

Last week, Octavio Kalajo, former president of the Association of Structural Engineers of the Philippines, contended he was warned in 1983 that the Hyatt could not withstand a major quake, but his findings were ignored.

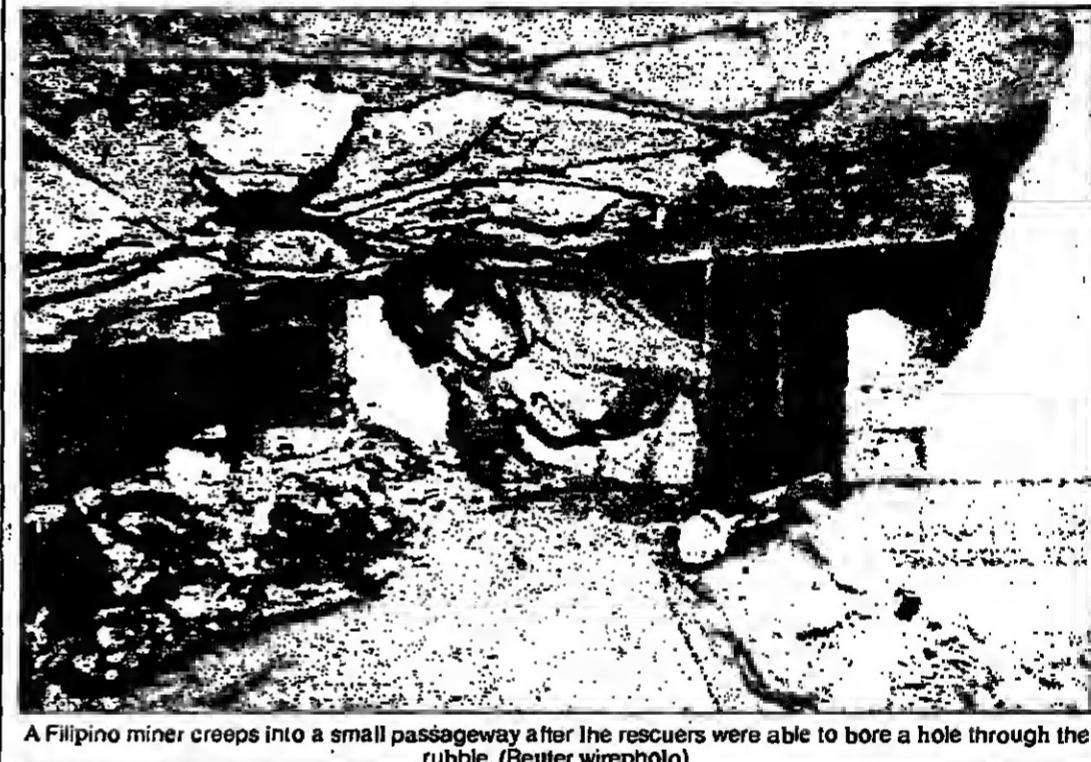
Relief supplies meant for victims of last week's devastating Philippine earthquake have been pilfered, a senior official said today.

De Jesus, blamed the losses on government laxity in handing aid donations.



A lone member of the International Rescue Corps sits passively on Sunday as rescuers abandoned hope of saving hundreds of people entombed in a quake-devastated Philippine mountain city of Baguio six days after the killer quake.

The death toll could exceed more than 1,000 lives. (Reuter wirephoto)



A Filipino miner creeps into a small passageway after the rescuers were able to bore a hole through the rubble. (Reuter wirephoto)

Asean reaffirms support

Continued backing for Khmer rebels

BANGKOK, July 23. (Reuter):

The Association of South East Asian Nations still supports Cambodian guerrillas despite a decision by its US ally to end recognition of the Khmer Rouge-dominated coalition, Thailand Foreign Minister Siddhi Savetsila said today.

The Khmer Rouge radio said Saturday it was preparing a new attack on the provincial capital, about 120 kms (75 miles) north of Phnom Penh.

The Khmer Rouge, which killed

hundreds of thousands of people when in power in the 1970s, is allied in a guerrilla coalition with the forces of Sihanouk and of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front. Vietnam installed the current government in Phnom Penh after invading it late 1978.

A US policy shift announced Wednesday has increased fears that the Khmer Rouge will escalate the fighting because of its international isolation. The United States, citing its opposition to the Khmer Rouge, said it was withdrawing recognition of the coalition's seat at the United Nations in order to open talks with Vietnam on ending the Cambodian war.

Talks

The SPK agency on Saturday urged the Khmer Rouge and its main source of arms, China, to return to talks on arranging the ceasefire.

Sihanouk and Phnom Penh's Prime Minister Hun Sen signed on June 5 in Tokyo the agreement calling for a truce, but the Khmer Rouge boycotted the talks after complaining it was not being treated as an equal.

China later said it did not support the agreement.

The agreement said the truce was to be arranged by a "supreme national council" comprising representatives of the government and the resistance. All factions have appointed representatives to the council except the Khmer Rouge.

The regional grouping in the early 1980s co-operated with China and the United States in forming an anti-Vietnamese coalition out of the ashes of exile groups and the Khmer Rouge, ousted from power by Vietnamese troops in 1978-9.

But non-communist groups in

the coalition and their backers face growing public condemnation for indirectly helping the Khmer Rouge, blamed for the deaths of one million Cambodians during its 1975-8 rule, which now poses a growing threat to the government.

Washington last week upset the stalemate between the two sides by announcing it would seek talks with Vietnam, which has claimed to have withdrawn all its troops from Cambodia, or barring the Khmer Rouge from returning to power.

Thailand, once Asean's most ardent supporter of the guerrillas, based on its eastern border, has under Prime Minister Chatichai Choonhaven switched to a more conciliatory role by hosting talks between the coalition and Phnom Penh.

But Siddhi, who has distanced himself from Thailand's controversial shift, said US efforts to isolate the Khmer Rouge would worsen the situation on the ground.

"The new stand of the United States pushed the Khmer Rouge away from peace talks and leaves them only one route — into the jungle," he said.

Proposals by Manila to form a common market have so far been received coolly by its partners.

Foreign ministers from Papua New Guinea, which shares a troubled border with Indonesia, and the Solomon Islands have been invited to the talks as observers.

Western ideas began to set up "natural foot societies" calling for an end to the custom.

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Elsewhere on Mindanao, government forces killed four rebel soldiers but lost two during a clash in Agusan del Sur province, 80 km (50 miles) west of Surigao del Sur, the Department of Social Welfare said on Sunday.

Soviet elite's free ride ends

Communist Party members facing hard times

TVER, USSR, July 23. (AP): Their policies are attacked from left and right. They are losing some of their cars and country homes. And now they have to start paying their own telephone and electricity bills.

For communists in this ancient Russian city, these are not the best of times. And they may be a sign of things to come for other areas.

Just ask Sergei Goryachev, the acting city party chief of Tver, a city 170 kilometres (105 miles) northwest of Moscow that was renamed last week from Kalinin. The 38-year-old son of a serviceman admits that a vacation that gave him a nice tan also started him thinking about quitting.

"This troubled me especially during my

vacation, when I had more time to think. And now every party worker is thinking. Of course there is worrying, serious worrying," Goryachev said in his office in Tver.

With Soviet founder Vladimir Lenin staring from a portrait on a wall, Goryachev said his soul-searching brought him to a simple conclusion: "In this period, to leave would be pure betrayal."

Sparked by dissatisfaction with this month's 28th Communist Party congress, dozens of party leaders have come to the opposite conclusion, including maverick Boris N. Yeltsin, the president of the Russian republic. They have quit the party.

The party is under attack nationwide from the left for not giving up its exclusive cells in the KGB and army and police and not sharing its massive wealth — buildings

and printing presses — with fledgling competitors. The right is angry that the party is loosening its grip on Eastern European states and is borrowing from capitalism in its economic reforms.

It is not known how many communists nationwide have turned in their cards to the 19 million-member party since the congress stood firm against these demands.

But in the Tver region, 3,000 of the 150,000 Communist Party members have left the party in the first half of this year.

Goryachev predicts more will quit because of unhappiness with what he calls incoherent decisions of the congress. The mood already is showing in his meetings with workers.

"They are cold in the very beginning

when you walk in. But then, people see that you are the same as they, have the same problems and that the problems concern me," he said.

Many complaints, he said, are about privileges accorded party officials. Goryachev and other officials say many summer cottages, cars and medical facilities reserved for the elite have been turned over to the government.

The older generation of party officials, even more accustomed to the good life, faces similar complaints.

"To hear out criticism is not a pleasant task," said Alexander Illyenkov, Tver's 53-year-old regional party chief.

Illyenkov, who talks quickly in a deep baritone and smokes a hard-to-find brand of cigarettes, says he answers frankly.

Vandals defacing Lenin's statues

MOSCOW, July 23. (AP): Vandals are defacing and toppling statues of Vladimir Lenin, and one city is even selling one of the monuments in unprecedented physical attacks on the Soviet Union's holiest icon.

Weekend reports in the state-run media said statues of the Soviet founder have been toppled in two dozen towns in the southern republic of Georgia, "barbarously disfigured" in Lithuania, and ordered dismantled and put up for sale in the western Ukraine city of Ternopol to the outrage of its local communists.

Under President Mikhail Gorbachev's reforms, Lenin and Marx have remained relatively sacred in the communist pantheon while other past leaders, such as Josef Stalin and Leonid I. Brezhnev, have been severely criticised.

In the Georgian capital of Tbilisi, police are guarding the Lenin statue in the city's Central Square around the clock to keep it from suffering the same fate as a bronze monument that was toppled near the Zerzo-Achchaly hydroelectric station, in another part of town, the newspaper Soviet Culture reported Saturday.

"He was lying looking at me with his frightening, empty eyes, the creator of my motherland, USSR — Vladimir Lenin," wrote correspondent S. Babayev. He added that the plant's labour committee decided to destroy the statue.

In recent weeks, monuments to the Soviet founders were destroyed in the Georgian towns of Kodzori, Kutaisi, Batumi and about two dozen others. Attempts were made to topple them in the Azerbaijani capital of Baku and the Armenian capital of Yerevan, Soviet Culture reported.

In the small town of Varniai in northwestern Lithuania, meanwhile, a statue of Lenin in the Central Square was "barbarously disfigured" on Saturday, the 50th anniversary of the declaration of Soviet power in the Baltics, the Tass news agency reported.

Tass did not further describe what was done to the Lenin statue, except to call it a "crude provocation."

Some critics of Lenin have become bolder — one suggested this year that his body be removed from the mausoleum in Red Square and buried — but for many he remains a figure of reverence and grandfatherly affection. Official criticism has been non-existent in comparison to the scorn heaped on Brezhnev and Stalin.

One official exception has been at the Moscow City council, where radical reformers who won election earlier this year voted to remove a bust of Lenin from their chambers.

Soviet food supply slack

MOSCOW, July 23. (UPI): The Soviet Union, plagued by stagnant food production and severe shortages of hard currency, faces bread shortages and increased social tensions, Prime Minister Nikolai Ryzhkov has warned.

Ryzhkov told the new presidential council and republican leaders that real food production — up about one per cent — had just barely kept pace with population growth.

Government purchases of grain from collective and state farms were lagging behind 1989 and there was not enough currency to even approach last year's purchase of 44 million tonnes on the foreign market.

"Unless we fundamentally change the situation, then the country is not in any condition — I can say categorically — to purchase that much grain," Ryzhkov said in a speech on Friday. His remarks were carried fully by Izvestia newspaper on Sunday.

Coalition rescued

German unity date put off

EAST BERLIN, July 23. (AP): Prime Minister Lothar de Maiziere has averted the collapse of his broad coalition after the ruling parties agreed to put off a decision on the precise date of German unification.

Both coalition partners had threatened to pull out of the coalition over the issue, but reached a compromise on Sunday.

The Social Democrats — East Germany's second-largest party — and the smaller liberal coalition have both demanded that unity occur a day before elections set Dec. 2. In that way, all of Germany, not two

separate nations, would vote at once.

De Maiziere's Christian Democrats have said unity before the vote

would place East Germans under a government they did not elect — the West German government — if only for a day.

Sunday, the coalition partners agreed to have the two German governments work together to find an agreeable solution.

The agreement foresees the two Germans negotiating a treaty on making preparations for the joint German elections.

Also Sunday, parliament voted to reconstitute the country's five states that had been dissolved under communist rule 38 years ago. The move was intended to facilitate East Germany's merger with the West under terms of Bonn's constitution.

Lawmakers overwhelmingly voted to make Oct. 14 the date for elections in the states of Mecklenburg, Saxony, Saxony-Anhalt, Thuringia, Brandenburg, as well as East Berlin.

The move restores the five states to roughly their 1946 borders and abolishes the 14 districts created by the communists in a 1952 administrative reform programme.

Lawmakers also agreed to establish the same five per cent base election requirement as exists in West Germany, rejecting calls by the communists' successor party, the party of democratic socialism, for a three per cent hurdle.

The law means parties must get at least five per cent of the vote in state and local elections in order to sit on representative bodies.

Parliament Sunday also passed its last independent budget. The 64 billion mark (\$38.8 billion) budget will have about a 34 billion mark (\$20.6 billion) deficit, which will be covered in part by the Bonn government and through new credit.

East Germany merged its economy with West Germany on July 1. Experts have predicted that up to half its 8 million workers could lose their jobs as formerly state-supported industries lose to free market competition.

The Volkskammer (parliament) also approved a carefully-worded compromise proposal from the CDU allowing talks with Bonn on the election procedure and the timing of the poll.

Earlier, CDU Prime Minister Lothar de Maiziere had appeared confident he had saved the coalition from collapse, at least for the time being.

"The atmosphere was such that we all thought it absolutely essential not to let the coalition be endangered or fall over this question," he told West German television after a coalition meeting to discuss his party's compromise.

The dispute has major political ramifications and signals the start of the election campaign in East Germany.

Under the consensus accepted by the Volkskammer, unity committees in the two German parliaments will meet to hammer out a solution by the end of the month. The governments are also charged with negotiating a special election treaty parallel to the main agreement on political parity.

The SPD and Liberal parties torpedoed a similar compromise earlier on Sunday even before it reached the 400-seat chamber, throwing the 30-day administration into renewed doubt after a weekend of growing acrimony and heated exchanges.

The coalition's problems surfaced just a week after West Germany secured huge security concessions from Moscow, including Nato membership for a united Germany.

It looked as if all major hurdles to unification had been cleared, including the question of Germany's border to Poland.

Walesa, in a letter read at the opening of meeting, made clear that he felt



Dec 21 commemorated

About 1,000 Romanians commemorate the dead of the bloody revolution of December 21, praying and laying white flowers at one of the makeshift shrines in Bucharest (Reuter wirephoto)

150 ANC militant members arrested

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa, July 23. (AP): The African National Congress acknowledged today that its guerrillas have been infiltrating South Africa and many have been arrested, but it denied reports of a secret insurrection plot.

An ANC official said police were staging a nation-wide police sweep on ANC militants and Communist Party members who had recently returned from exile or who had infiltrated the country secretly.

The official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said a man claiming to be a sub-lieutenant in the ANC's military wing reportedly entered the US consulate in Durban today seeking asylum because of the police raids.

The ANC source said Dheku Musa Jubulani Ximbe, 38, had been in hiding since police raided his home a week ago and confiscated a cache of hand grenades and limpet mines.

ANC members are returning to South Africa under initiatives meant to open talks on ending apartheid, the country's system of racial segregation.

Armed

Walter Sisulu, internal ANC leader, was quoted in the Daily Mail newspaper as saying his organisation believed as many as 150 of its members had been arrested in recent weeks. He said he assumed they had been engaged in the "normal activities" of the organisation, and he noted the ANC's "armed struggle" had not been suspended.

But Sisulu denied reports in several Sunday newspapers that quoted government sources as saying a secret unit of ANC guerrillas, directed by the South African Communist Party, was planning an armed insurrection.

The newspaper reports said this renegade group opposed the ANC's policy of negotiating with the government. The reports said the ANC military wing's command did not know of the plot.

The Star, an anti-government Johannesburg paper, yesterday quoted government sources as saying the State Security Council would probably discuss the alleged plot at a meeting today.

The ANC National Executive Committee also was meeting today and tomorrow in preparation for its next round of talks with the government on Aug. 6.

Both sides have said the latest problems will not interfere with the talks, which are expected to address obstacles to a ceasefire, such as release of prisoners convicted of politically-motivated crimes and an amnesty for returning exiles.

The government wants the ANC formally end its ineffective 29-year-old armed struggle and has asked Nelson Mandela and other ANC leaders to stop "war talk."

But the ANC has said it will not suspend the military wing's activities until the government has made irreversible changes to end apartheid and share power.

Sisulu said he expected detentions of ANC members to continue as long as the organisation and government had not arranged a ceasefire. But he added, "one thing we are not going to do is to stop the process of negotiations."

Explosion

A massive explosion damaged the offices of the ruling National Party in Bloemfontein before dawn yesterday, police said.

No one claimed responsibility, but the commercial explosives used in the blast have been a trademark of recent attack by white extremists.

Workers present

Mandela gets red Mercedes

MDANTSANE, South Africa, July 23. (AP): Nelson Mandela received a red Mercedes-Benz car yesterday, built specially for him by automakers who hailed him as leader of the disenfranchised black majority.

More than 50,000 blacks attended a rally at a sports stadium in Mdantsane, a township on the southern coast, where Mandela received the key to the \$50 SE Mercedes-Benz, valued at more than \$200,000 rand (\$40,000).

Mandela said the fire-engine red car would "forever remind us of the blood the workers and people of our country have shed in the liberation struggle."

"The red colour of this car will constitute a daily challenge to us to stop the violence," Mandela said.

Employees at the Mercedes-Benz plant in neighbouring East London worked overtime without pay to build the car for Mandela. The German-owned company agreed to donate the vehicle to Mandela, leader of the African National Congress.

The National Union of Metalworkers presented the car as "a small sign of our gratitude to Mr Mandela." The union supports the ANC, the country's largest black opposition movement.

Soviets foil hijack attempt: 2 arrested

Flight took off from Latvia

MOSCOW, July 23. (UPI): Two young men tried to hijack an Aeroflot jetliner with 74 passengers to Sweden today, but its crew landed the plane in northern Russia and foiled the latest in a rash of air piracy bids from the Soviet Union, Tass said.

The official Soviet news agency said the hijacking attempt occurred on a flight bound from the Latvian capital of Riga to the port of Murmansk on the Barents sea.

"Two young men staged an abortive attempt to hijack another Soviet airliner to Sweden today," Tass said.

Deputy Civil Aviation Minister Mikhail Timofeev said the two men threatened to blow up the plane if it did not fly to Stockholm. But the crew consulted with ground security and landed instead in Petrozavodsk, a town in the Karelia region about halfway between Riga and Murmansk, he said.

The two hijackers, a 22-year-old student identified only by his last name of Kovalenko and a 27-

Bush helps christen new carrier

NEWPORT NEWS, Virginia, July 23. (UPI): President George Bush helped christen the aircraft carrier George Washington, quoting the mighty vessel's namesake as saying, "to be prepared for war is one of the most effective means of preserving peace."

Semyonov was the first person expelled from Sweden to the Soviet Union in 44 years. Soviets were previously granted political asylum and tried in Sweden, but Swedish authorities said they broke with past policy in the hope that the extradition would discourage further hijackings.

Two other accused Soviet hijackers in Sweden are awaiting the government's decision, as are two accused air pirates in custody in Finland.

The president told the crowd, "today, the carrier remains an indispensable element in the American arsenal — projecting power, preserving peace."

The president released the letter after the newsweekly Panorama reported its existence.

The Rai report was based mainly on interviews with two men who claimed to have worked for the CIA. One was identified as Dick Breneke. The other was a hood during the interview, saying he wanted to protect his identity.

Cossiga also asked for an investigation into charges in the Rai report that the CIA and the P-2 were involved in the assassination of Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme in 1986. The killing is still unsolved.

There was no immediate word on whether Andreotti had ordered an investigation.

He said that if the government felt the charges were well-founded, the case should be turned over to the courts and a parliamentary commission on terrorism. If the information was false or reckless, he said, the Rai should be taken to court.

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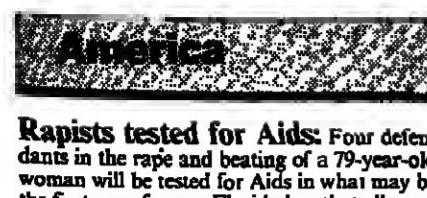
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World News Roundup



Rapists tested for Aids: Four defendants in the rape and beating of a 79-year-old woman will be tested for Aids in what may be the first use of a new Florida law that allows a rape victim to demand tests of the accused.

"This is certainly the first case I've heard," said Stephen Kindland of the state department of health and rehabilitative services' Aids prevention headquarters.

Circuit Judge Burton C. Easton agreed Friday to allow the tests under the law that took effect July 1.

The test results will not be admissible as evidence if the case comes to trial.

Bids to free mercy killer: The prosecutor who five years ago helped convict 76-year-old Roswell Gilbert of murder for slaying his elderly, ailing wife, now wants to help free him.

Kelly Hancock, who prosecuted Gilbert, says he still believes Gilbert was wrong to end his wife's suffering by killing her. But he also does not believe Gilbert, now 81, should have to serve out his life sentence.

Hancock convinced a jury five years ago that Gilbert was guilty of first-degree murder. As a result the judge had only two options in sentencing. Execution by electric chair, or life in prison with no chance of parole for 25 years (AP).

Pot stimulates brain: American researchers say they have discovered receptors in the brain that are stimulated by marijuana, suggesting that there is a previously unknown chemical pathway in the body using a natural form of the drug.

The work suggests that researchers might eventually be able to develop drugs that do not cause in intoxication but have some of the medicinal properties of marijuana, including pain relief, anti-nausea action, anti-nausea action and anti-nausea action. Researchers might also be able to design entirely new drugs aimed at these receptors that are more effective pain killers. (Kuna)

Magnetic trains under study: As countries like France and America are rushing to produce the high-speed passenger trains that ride on magnetic cushions, Americans appear divided about its development here in the US amid a new federal study saying it is not ecologically feasible.

The study by the Federal Railroad Administration on the high-speed trains predicts only limited use of it in the US in the next 10 or 20 years.

The magnetic levitation trains, which would travel about 300 miles an hour while suspended above a guideway by powerful magnetic fields, are under development in several countries and have been proposed as an alternative to air travel between some cities in the United States. (Kuna)

Kennedy mark: A week after a public outpouring, the matriarch of one of America's most durable political dynasties, Rose Kennedy, officially turned 100 Sunday and was honoured at a private gathering.

In contrast to the gala events of last week — when the occasion was used to highlight progress in the area of aid to the mentally handicapped — Sunday's gathering was closed to the media.

Last weekend, Kennedy family members and 370 guests gathered at the family compound to hear speeches, eat birthday cake, see a film on Mrs Kennedy's life and serenade her with her favourite Irish songs. (AP)

Rose Kennedy Centre: A social services centre named for Rose Kennedy has been dedicated as part of the family's observance of their matriarch's 100th birthday.

Robert F. Kennedy Jr., son of the late US senator and host of the event, said the centre was inspired by his grandmother's "long-lasting commitment to the family and the values that are derived from caring and nurturing environment."

The centre will serve elderly women and homeless young mothers when it opens in 1991. It is in the Bedford-Stuyvesant restoration area, a project backed by the late senator in the poor, mostly black neighbour (AP)

Birthday marked: A who's who of classical musicians, including a tuxedo-wearing Mstislav Rostropovich, threw a 70th birthday party on Sunday for Isaac Stern, as some 30,000 people turned out to pay tribute to one of the world's most famous violinists.

Flutist Jean-Pierre Rampal and violinist Jaime Laredo were among those who performed with the San Francisco Symphony in a free concert in the city where Stern began his career 55 years ago.

Rostropovich stole the show, dancing onto the stage wearing the heavy make-up of a ballerina, a wig and white tutu. The conductor of the Washington Symphony then played cello for a performance of Camille Saint-Saens' "Carnival of the Animals." (Reuter)

Patriarch stirs crowd: Patriarch Dimitrios I delivered the divine Liturgy Sunday morning in Grant Park to a crowd of thousands who travelled from as far away as Florida to see him, said Jim Peponis, who co-chairs the visit committee.

Dimitrios, the spiritual leader of 250 million Orthodox Christians, delivered the Liturgy to nearly 12,000 people a half hour late because of a steady downpour of rain. (UPI)



Wreckage

Rescue workers try to free a victim (not pictured) trapped inside the wreckage of a passenger train derailed near Zaragoza, Spain, on July 22 as a result of intense heat which caused the track to bend out of shape causing the train to derail. (Reuter wirephoto)



High fashion

A Philippe Venet model wears a cobalt-blue gold brocade suede coat with fur-lined hood and cuffs during an Autumn-Winter 1990-91 high fashion preview on July 20. (Reuter wirephoto)

'Not as wild as before'

Lacroix kicks off high fashion shows

PARIS, July 23, (Reuter): Flamboyant designer Christian Lacroix kicked off five days of French autumn and winter high fashion shows in a shade more restrained than usual but still managed to throw blood-red miniskirts over black velvet in a presentation inspired by the Orient, New York and Spain.

A 130-strong cast of Paris couturiers, he scored a few triumphs at a showing yesterday at a Paris hotel where eager paparazzi mobbed US socialite Ivana Trump, one of the few women able to afford the individually-tailored lines.

"It was high elegance," said former Chanel top model Ines de la Fressange. "He is eccentric but marvellous. Even for a professional, his shows are an experience."

Lacroix's woman was softly indulged and often chaste but would never go unnoticed.

Throwing blood-red silk over black velvet or combining fuchsia with red and tartans with tweeds, Lacroix indulged in the eye-catching contrasts that have catapulted him to the top of the thriving fashion trade.

He recklessly juxtaposed flowing velvets with pastel chiffons, heavy brocades with fine chiffon and threw his trademark diamante buttons on backs, fronts, sleeves or hips.

But the fashion circus agreed that the southern French designer, whose 1987-founded house has yet to show a profit, was a shade more restrained than in the past.

"He is still one of the great artists," one journalist said. "But not quite as wild as in the past."

Largely inspired by the Orient and 16th century Spain, Lacroix's models favoured short skirts or tightly tapered trousers but needed to show little flesh to seduce.

Undisclosed ailment

Quayle wife operated on

WASHINGTON, July 23, (Reuter): Marilyn Quayle, wife of Vice-President Dan Quayle, underwent surgery on Saturday morning for an undisclosed ailment, but is expected to make a complete recovery, Quayle spokesman David Beckwith said.

Beckwith would not disclose the reason for the surgery or where it took place, but said the disease was diagnosed at its earliest stage through a Pap test, a common procedure for detecting cervical cancer or pre-cancerous conditions.

"Mrs Quayle will be able to resume her full schedule in four to six weeks. A full and total recovery is expected," Beckwith said.

"The vice-president and Mrs Quayle urge all women to have yearly Pap tests. With early diagnosis, complete cure and total recovery are possible. The Quayle family is thankful that this test was able to detect her disease at its earliest stages," he said.

The Pap test is named for George Papanicolaou, the doctor who invented it. The procedure is used to study cells in the cervix and can detect cancerous cells or changes that may be the first signs of cancer.

Physicians recommend that women over 18 have annual Pap tests.

Mrs Quayle, 40, whose mother died of breast cancer, has emerged as an effective spokeswoman promoting the cause of breast cancer awareness and research.

Europe

France swelters: Hundreds of people were taken to hospitals over the weekend as heat records fell throughout France, officials said on Sunday.

Southwestern areas sweltered on Saturday as temperatures approached 40 degrees centigrade (104 Fahrenheit), they said.

The highest temperature recorded — and the highest figure since records began to be kept this century — was 39.2 C (102.5 F) at Nerac, near Toulouse.

The weather bureau said temperatures were normal only on the Mediterranean coastline. Elsewhere they were about 10 C (50 F) higher than average for the season.

Officials said Sunday temperatures appeared to be soaring everywhere and no relief was in sight.

Tolstoy abandons appeal: Count Nikolai Tolstoy says he will abandon his appeal against a libel award because he cannot afford to post a deposit required by the Court of Appeal.

Tolstoy had sought to overturn the record award of \$2.7 million to Lord Aldington, whom Tolstoy had accused of war crimes during World War II.

Three judges of the Court of Appeal ruled last week that Tolstoy's appeal had little chance of success, and that if he wished to proceed he must deposit \$226,000 within 14 days as security for Aldington's costs.

"I cannot possibly raise that kind of money within 14 days so this is the end of the legal road," said Tolstoy, author of the book "Victims of Yalta" and a descendant of the Russian author Leo Tolstoy.

Star ferry for sale: The Danish-owned Scandinavia Star ferry, on which 158 passengers and crew died in a sea blaze in April, is for sale.

Managing director Ole Hansen of Copenhagen-based VR Shipping, told Reuters on Monday that the 10,315-tonne vessel was available "for any sum in excess of 10 million dollars."

"We will consider all double-figure dollar offers for the vessel," Hansen said.

The fire-ravaged vessel, which experts say can be renovated and sail again, has been docked in Copenhagen harbour since April.

QE2's fastest Atlantic crossing:

The liner Queen Elizabeth 2 recorded its best time for an Atlantic crossing on Sunday when it docked at Southampton, England, four days, six hours and 57 minutes after leaving New York, said Capt Robert Woodall.

He said the liner's previous best time was 99 minutes slower.

Woodall said his ship travelled at an average 30 knots (34.5 mph or 55 kmph) and it was the fastest east-round crossing the liner had made, although the crew had not set out to break any records.

The liner United States was faster on its maiden voyage from New York in 1952 when it averaged 35.39 knots (40.69 mph or 65.95 kmph) and crossed in three days, 10 hours and 40 minutes.

Labour blames Thatcher: Britain's main opposition Labour Party has accused British Premier Margaret Thatcher of being responsible for forcing families into poverty, debt and stress, it was reported in London on Sunday.

The party's spokeswoman, Jo Richardson, said "You can't walk all over the family for 10 years and hope to put it right in one speech. We need action, not empty words."

In a speech delivered near London and made public this morning, Richardson criticised the Thatcher government for imposing higher taxes that hit women particularly hard and had placed a huge burden on poor families.

Scots anti-monarchist: The Scots have a deep anti-monarchist strain, according to a London newspaper opinion poll, published Sunday.

A total of 75 per cent favour its abolition.

The poll, by telephone international media for Scotland on Sunday newspapers, questioned more than 2,300 people.

The result was 1,741 for scrapping the monarchy, 583 against.

Jet drops fuel tanks: A French air force Mirage fighter aircraft lost two fuel tanks over a French village but caused more fright than harm, a defence ministry spokesman said.

The tanks, each carrying 10,000 litres (2,300 gallons) of kerosene, hit the sleepy southwestern village of Berdoues on Friday, narrowly missing houses but damaging wheatfields and alarming residents.

State radio said the two dead, a man and woman, were trapped under rubble for more than three hours before police discovered their bodies. A hospital spokesman said none of the injured was in serious condition.

Maltese supermarket collapses: A platform containing food, detergent and bottles collapsed on shoppers at a supermarket on Saturday, killing two people and injuring 17 others, police in Valletta, Malta, said.

Witnesses said some shoppers were knocked down and buried by the falling goods.

State radio said the two dead, a man and woman, were trapped under rubble for more than three hours before police discovered their bodies. A hospital spokesman said none of the injured was in serious condition.

US experts to probe: In a breakthrough in the long campaign to account for the 2,302 American servicemen still missing from the Vietnam war, a group of US experts for the first time will visit Cambodia this week to search for the remains of as many as 82 military personnel.

"This is big breakthrough," said Mary Curran of the National League of Families of POWs/MIA in Southeast Asia. (UPI)

Commonwealth observers: The opposition of Sunday urged Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad to stick to his plan to invite Britain's Commonwealth of nations to send observers for upcoming general elections.

The Democratic Action Party, deputy secretary general, Lee Laius Thye, a Member of Parliament, said in a statement the party wants the observers to come to Malaysia to prove to the world that elections for the national parliament and 12 state legislative assemblies are fair.

Mahathir said Saturday the government would review its earlier decision to invite the observers. He said he will bring up the matter at the next cabinet meeting on Wednesday, the national news agency Bernama reported. (AP)

Emphasise rights issues: China has taken positive steps to improve its human rights record but needs to do more, a high-ranking British official said Sunday before departing for Beijing.

Foreign Office Minister Francis Maude is the first British minister to visit China since a ban was imposed on high-level exchanges after last year's massacre.

The ban is still in place, Maude said, but the European Community had granted exemptions to Britain because of its links with Hong Kong which reverts to China in 1997, and to Portugal, because of its links with Macao. (AP)

Nepal hunger strike: People injured during the February-April democracy movement continued a week-long hunger strike as an American expert on Nepal said Sunday that a return to absolute monarchy was unlikely.

The injured are continuing their hunger strike despite assurances by Health Minister Dr Mathura Shrestha that "their demands will be met." They are demanding action against those responsible for killings as well as rehabilitation of the injured and proper medical treatment either at home or abroad.

Shrestha said a panel of experts investigating the injured will submit its report to the government Monday to decide if any need foreign treatment. (UPI)

Farmer gets raw deal: A Vietnamese man fled to southern China disguised as a woman and was later sold in marriage by a crafty matchmaker to an unwitting farmer, according to a local newspaper reaching Beijing on Sunday.

After several failures in courtship, the farmer was introduced to a potential spouse by the matchmaker for 1,800 yuan (\$380) a large sum in China, the official Nanfang Daily said.

Suspicious villagers denounced the "bride" as an illegal refugee from Vietnam. The bridegroom told police and the matchmaker was caught, the daily said, without revealing the refugee's fate or his marital motives. (Reuter)

Among the ruins

Singer-composer Roger Waters plays his bass amongst bricks after the wall collapsed at the end of the rock show rehearsal "The Wall" July 20. 150,000 visitors are expected to attend the concert. (Reuter wirephoto)



Love mismatch

What do you get when you cross Shetland pony with a donkey? A Shonky is pictured here on July 19 on the property of thoroughbred breeder Ron Walmsley, who concedes that the Shonky was the result of a love mismatch between Des the donkey and Sheba the Shetland pony. (Reuter wirephoto)

Physician, family set off from HK

Briton to retrace Marco Polo voyage

HONG KONG, July 23, (AP): A British physician left Hong Kong for Shanghai yesterday in a replica of a 13th century Chinese junk to retrace a historic odyssey taken by Venetian adventurer Marco Polo on his return home from China.

Moran designed the junk from information culled from ancient engravings and descriptions fed in to a computer.

He said junks built now are mainly coastal vessels and differ greatly from 13th century Chinese ocean-going ships used by Kublai Khan, in whose court Marco Polo served in various posts for about 17 years.

Moran said the Chinese "were once the emperors of the sea ... (and) this voyage is setting out to prove it."

He said he would try to better pinpoint places vaguely described by Marco Polo to "piece together the jigsaw puzzle of his sea route."

Moran said he also plans to test "replicas of old Chinese navigational instruments and verify the utility of a 16th century navigational chart that gives the duration of each leg of the journey."

Taiwan rejects panda offer: Taipei has rejected Beijing's offer of two pandas because local zoologists do not have the know-how to care for the animals, the Council of Agriculture said on Monday.

China on Sunday renewed its "panda diplomacy" toward Taiwan with an offer of Lingling and Lele.

"If we do accept

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Trying to reverse reputation for arrogance, high living

Rajiv seeks new image for political comeback

NEW DELHI, July 23, (UPI): Rajiv Gandhi is busy cultivating a new image these days, trying to replace a reputation for arrogance and high living with one of humility and down-home affinity with the common man.

The former prime minister makes it a point to leave New Delhi two or three times each week, travelling to different parts of the country to meet as many potential voters as possible.

He makes periodic whistle-stop train tours riding in second-class passenger cars, braving the sweltering Indian summer heat. He visits villages who have suffered from communal violence or from natural disasters.

Not long ago, Rajiv, 45, led fellow party members in a day-long fast near the cremation site of the martyred father of Indian independence, Mohandas K. "Mahatma" Gandhi — no relation to the former prime minister.

The purpose of the exercise, of course, is aimed at increasing his popularity and eventually regaining the power he lost in last November's national elections, in which Rajiv's Congress (I) Party suffered a crushing defeat.

But will this technique help the grandson of India's first Prime Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru, back to the prime minister's seat, or is his political career — and the so-called Nehru-Gandhi dynasty that has ruled India for all but four of 43 years of independence — finished?

"In politics nothing is final," said K.R. Sundar Rajan, a nationally syndicated columnist. "In 1977, his mother, Indira, was defeated and everyone thought she was finished forever. But she came back to power. But at the moment his prospects are not very bright."

The scene was quite different at the beginning of Rajiv's term in office following the assassination of Indira Gandhi in 1984.

Nicknamed "Mr Clean," Rajiv was seen as an energetic statesman who made bold moves to stem the tide of India's frequent ethnic violence and who appeared to take a tough stand against corruption in government.

But the young prime minister's administration was to become plagued by inefficiency and internal bickering.

Rajiv also found himself embroiled in a number of scandals involving charges of

high-level corruption, including alleged kickbacks paid to government officials in the purchase of a \$1.3 billion artillery system from Sweden's A B Bofors.

Also, Rajiv had acquired a reputation for enjoying the good life — fancy watches, stylish clothes and expensive cars — and of having little connection with millions of his fellow Indians, many of whom live in abject poverty.

Now, eight months after his defeat, Rajiv seems to realize the need to change the way he is perceived by most voters.

He has made himself more accessible to fellow party members and to the public in an attempt to counter long-standing charges that he is elitist and aloof.

"This looks like it is going to be his technique, to appear as a (Mahatma) Gandhi, a common man," said Khushwan Singh, a novelist, historian and New Delhi's most widely read columnist. "He travels around the country in second-class rail cars and he went on a fast. Well, you don't abstain from food for one day and become a Mahatma Gandhi."

Still, said Singh, the approach just might have the desired effect.

"In some ways it may work," he said.

"About 70 per cent of the population is illiterate and are very easily swayed by these manifestations, by this gimmickry."

As Rajiv slowly works to woo the masses, the once Indian Airlines pilot also is occupied with maintaining party unity.

Most observers believe that for the moment, Rajiv is the undisputed leader of his party and that there are no likely successors in the horizon.

"The Congress only has one leader," said Khushwan Singh. "And that is Rajiv Gandhi. He has the charisma of being Nehru's grandson and Indira's son."

P. Chidambaram, a former member of Parliament and one of Rajiv's close associates, agrees but cautions that the party has some important housekeeping to attend to.

"As far as Rajiv's leadership is concerned, it is beyond challenge, now or in the future," Chidambaram said. "But that is not a picture of total unity because at the state levels there are serious factions. And these factions will affect our performance in future elections. It will endanger our capacity to win elections."

That weakness was clearly demonstrated in February when the Congress (I) Party lost

six of eight state assembly elections.

As a result, its one-time dominant political empire shrank to only seven of 25 states, none of them in northern India, the party's traditional stronghold.

Contributing to the party's internal problems may be the fact that party elections have not been held since 1972.

"There is a lot of unhappiness among the older members of the Congress (I) Party," said one Western diplomat. "They are unhappy because the party never did a self-examination following its election defeats. They feel it is time to take a look at themselves, find out what went wrong and rebuild the party."

Another factor determining Rajiv's political future is the success of Prime Minister V.P. Singh's National Front government, a five-party minority coalition that is able to govern with the backing of the Hindu chauvinist Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and India's two communist parties.

Whether the government will survive is a matter of considerable discussion among political analysts.

"I don't think the National Front will go belly-up any time soon," said a Western diplomatic observer. "Neither the BJP nor

the left will bring down the government because that would help bring back the Congress (Party), which neither one wants. It is also premature for any faction to stand for election on their own."

But political squabbling within the National Front government has led others to adopt a more pessimistic vision.

"Deep cracks have already appeared in the government," said columnist Khushwan Singh.

So uncertain is the future of the government, said Singh, that some people have taken out bets.

"I've taken one myself," he said. "A friend of mine thinks the government will be gone by the end of the year and I said it will survive. Five-to-one odds. But now I'm beginning to feel uneasy that he'll win the bet."

Rajiv, meanwhile, bides his time and works steadily toward restoring his power base in the world's largest democracy. Relatively inexperienced in politics before he became prime minister, he now has a chance to gain the kind of political management experience he has lacked and to devise a workable and winning political strategy.

11 MPs resign to protest atrocities

Curfew clamped in northern Sri Lanka

COLOMBO, July 23, (Agencies): Lawmakers considered close to the Tamil Tiger rebels resigned from parliament today, accusing the military of atrocities and genocide in a war with the guerrillas.

Meanwhile, the government declared a curfew in northern Kilinochchi district, scene of a fierce gambit yesterday that killed 18 rebels and nine soldiers. The military said it was hunting fleeing rebels.

Military officials said 76 rebels were killed in separate fighting in the east Sunday, and eight soldiers and three civilians in the north.

The deaths raise to at least 2,850 the number of combatants killed since fighting resumed June 11 between the military and the rebels.

The bodies of eight Muslims, believed killed by rebels, were also found in the east, said military officials speaking on condition of anonymity.

All eleven members of the Eelavur Democratic Front announced their resignation from parliament. Last month, the group had called for a ceasefire between the rebels and the government. President Ranasinghe Premadasa rejected the offer, asking the rebels to lay down their arms first.

"It appears that the hope we had that the solution be made through political means is not sensible," they said in a statement. "The chance to find a solution to the problems of the Tamil-speaking people is out of reach."

"We do not want to be dormant spectators who witness the tormentation of our people," they added.

The Eelavur Democratic Front had won 13 of the 225 seats in Parliament in 1989 general elections. Two of its members resigned earlier this year citing personal reasons.

The fighting has been restricted to the Tamil-dominated north and east of the island off



A police commando inspects a burnt-out jeep in Tirukkova. The Sri Lankan government forces have begun an offensive against the Tamil Tigers. (Reuters wirephoto)

India's southern coast. The rebels want to establish an independent nation in the areas.

In the east, the military has pushed the guerrillas out of major towns into surrounding jungles, and it called the fighting yesterday that killed 76 rebels a mopping-up operation.

The rebels continue to hold the north and are beating back determined government efforts to recapture the area.

The fighting is the latest phase of the seven-year-old war for an independent Tamil homeland, set off by Tamil accusations of discrimination by the majority Sinhalese community.

Tamil policemen were freed and some others escaped, but the government said 630 were missing, believed dead.

Bhopal victims yet to be paid

NEW YORK, July 23, (UPI): Five years after lethal gas escaped from a pesticide plant in Bhopal, India, and caused history's worst industrial disaster, many people eligible for relief have not been paid, a published report said today.

The Indian government estimates about 1 million people in Bhopal were affected by the Dec. 2, 1984 accident, but so far uneven relief distribution has deprived more than 400,000 of them of payments.

Last year the owner of the plant, Union Carbide, paid \$470 million to the government of India, following years of legal fighting. The company is challenging the settlement in court in New Delhi, the Times said.

In February the Indian government announced it would begin dispensing about \$210 million to about 500,000 people. In April the 500,000 victims began receiving monthly \$12 payments that will continue for the next three years, the newspaper said.

Engineers working on controversial canal project in Punjab killed

constitution as the best way to restore parliamentary rule, arguing that indigenous Fijians interests would be guaranteed and the rights of other races, including Indians, protected.

Opposition leader Adi Kuini Bavada said the decision had been reached "unanimously" by 200 delegates at a meeting in the city of Nadi of the National Federation-Party-Fiji Labor Party coalition, leaders of which led the country until military coups in 1987.

The government has yet to enact the proposed constitution, which calls for elections next year to elect a two-house Parliament based on racially-separate voting systems that would give indigenous Fijians an automatic majority.

Fiji's military-supported interim government has backed the draft

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Sekhri, 52, and Aulakh, 50, were killed and two other officers were injured, Singh said.

The assailants fled on motor scooters, he said.

The project offices are located in a busy market complex in Chandigarh, the joint capital of Punjab and Haryana states.

The canal is supposed to divert water from

with other officers on the Sutlej-Yamuna link canal project and opened fire with automatic pistols.

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The project offices are located in a busy market complex in Chandigarh, the joint capital of Punjab and Haryana states.

The canal is supposed to divert water from

the Sutlej river to the Yamuna river. Construction began in 1982 and is nearly completed, government officials say.

Sikh politicians, whose support largely comes from Sikh farmers in Punjab, fear the project will deprive the state of irrigation facilities.

Sikh militant groups, agitating for an independent nation in Punjab, have also opposed the canal. In May 1988, 32 labourers working on the project were shot and killed by Sikh radicals.

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Alecs meets under Kuwaiti undersecretary

Status of institutes discussed

TUNIS, July 23, (Kuna): The executive council of the Arab League for Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organisation (Alecs) resumed meeting here yesterday, under the chairmanship of Kuwait Education Undersecretary Abdul Khodari.

Khodari told Kuna, following the meeting, that the council has passed a national plan called "Education for all the Arab world by the year 2000," describing it as

"ambitious" and that it would help Arab states generalise basic education.

Khodari added that the council, which opened its discussions Saturday in the presence of Alecs's director-general and representatives of member states, also examined the status of the manuscripts institutes in Kuwait and Cairo and merging of the two institutes under one administration.

The meetings were due to wind up tomorrow, but since the discussions are running ahead of schedule, they might come to a close today.

A closed session is due to be convened tomorrow, during which members will discuss the status of the cultural heritage in occupied Jerusalem, settling Alecs's situation in Cairo after the Arab League has named Tunis as the organisation's headquarters and the payment of membership dues.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Amir receives

KUWAIT, July 23, (Kuna): HH the Amir Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed Al Sabah received here yesterday the Indian Minister of Civil Aviation and acting Minister of Energy, Aref Mohammed Khan.

During the meeting the Indian official conveyed a letter from the President of India to HH the Amir.

The meeting was attended by Kuwaiti Minister of Communications Habeeb Jawher Hayat and Indian Ambassador to Kuwait A.K. Bhattacharya.

Amiri cable

KUWAIT, July 23, (Kuoa): HH the Amir has sent a cable of congratulations to President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt on the occasion of his country's national day.

Hijra celebrated

KUWAIT, July 23, (Kuna): The Islamic world today celebrates the annual anniversary of Prophet Mohammed's Hijra from Holy Makkah to Medina over 14 centuries ago.

The Ministry of Awqaf (Endowments) and Islamic Affairs last night held a religious ceremony on the occasion, which heralds the advent of the new Islamic year, as ministries and public and private institutions closed for the day.

The Awqaf Minister, Mohamed Nasser Al Hamdan, in a brief statement, gave prominence to meanings of the event and said that it should be utilised to unite the Islamic nation.

He said that Kuwait remains an advocate working for peace in an atmosphere of mutual respect.

Islam calls for peace based on respect for rights, good neighbourliness and building bridges of fraternity in an atmosphere of co-operation and harmony, Hamdan said.

Mosques in Pak

ISLAMABAD, July 23, (Kuna): King Fahd of Saudi Arabia would provide three million riyals to build 50 mosques in Pakistan this year.

Pakistan's Federal Minister for Religious Affairs Khaib Bahadur, disclosing this today at a press conference, said that the Saudi King had already provided three hundred thousand riyals as the first installment. He said the remaining amount would be given as the construction work progressed.

He said that the representatives of the Saudi government would visit Pakistan to monitor progress in construction work.

The Pakistani minister added that the Saudi Deputy Haj Minister Hasan Khasekhees had donated 50,000 riyals to help build one mosque at Tangi in the frontier province.

Slaughterhouses

TEMPORARY slaughter houses which had been designed to meet the increasing demand for sacrifices during Eid Al Adha will continue, according to the Public Relations Department at Kuwait Municipality.

Speaking to a local daily, the director of the department, Rashed Al Hashan said that the experiment had been a success during the past three years. These temporary slaughterhouses were intended to ease the pressure at the permanent slaughterhouses he commented.

He disclosed that 14 sites are being prepared this year, compared to twelve last year and these sites are being supervised in co-operation with different departments at Kuwait Municipality and co-operative societies.

ACO session

A SESSION of the Permanent Bureau of ACO will be held during the first week of December in Cairo, secretary-general of the Arab Cities Organisation (ACO) based in Kuwait, Abdul Aziz Al Asadani said.

The forthcoming meeting will be the first to be held in Cairo after Egypt was restored as a member in the organisation. With the inclusion of Egypt, the total number of members in the bureau total 25, which represent all Arab capitals, besides Jerusalem and Hebron of the West Bank.

The session was to be held in November, but was postponed till December to accommodate the request of the Egyptian government and was the result of an invitation extended by the governor of Cairo to host the session, the official said.



Korean envoy

Minister of Public Works Jassim Mohammad Al Mousa received at his office recently the Korean Ambassador to Kuwait Byung Yong Soh.

Mumtaz Post extended

101 operators face 40,000 calls a day

THE Ministry of Communications through its various departments all over the country provides telephone and postal services to different groups in society. A local daily interviewed a number of employees at the ministry to highlight the extent of residents' co-operation with them.

Farooq Rashed Ismail, assistant director of the Movement and Operation Department at the ministry said that the department works 24 hours a day to provide citizens with the "101" telephone information services. He added that the department receives a total of 40,000 101 information calls daily.

Mumtaz Post items are accepted at a specially designated window at the General Post Office counter, Fahd Al Salem Street, during regular working hours, daily except official holidays. Fees for the Mumtaz Post services are as under:

KD5 for the first half kilogramme or part thereof.

KD2 for every additional half kilogramme or part thereof.

The maximum weight limit of an item is 20 kgs.

The Post Office Department accepts legal liability for Mumtaz Post item for (the paid postal charge plus the legal indemnity as mentioned in the UPU regulations).

In case of non-delivery of the Mumtaz Post item to the addressee for one week due to unforeseen reasons relates to the post office of origin or destination.

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Further details and information can be obtained from the office of the head of Mumtaz Post section at the Post Office Department, Fahd Al Salem St, Kuwait and call Tel No. 2430278.

The Mumtaz post service is available to the following countries:

Rabiya residents

Complaints of noise and smell in area

A LOCAL daily has interviewed a number of residents in the Rabiya district to monitor their satisfaction with the existing public services.

Barrak Mansour said that idle youth are too many in the area and they are a public nuisance, because they stay up late at night, sing loudly, burn car tyres and drive recklessly, jeopardising the lives of youngsters and internal roads.

Khaled Saleh said that prices at the local co-op are high, and that the whole prices are growing higher in all co-ops, particularly after the latest price increase.

Working in a garage, he said, gives him an insight into the thinking of various types of people and also affords him the opportunity of socialising with various categories of individuals of various nationalities.

There are risks involved in working in a garage, he said, but added that with adequate care and caution these risks to life and limb can be minimised.

Bader Thiyah, another garage owner said that it is a welcome sight to see that the number of Kuwaiti youths who are taking up to the profession are gradually increasing.

Ahmad Murshed said that the major problem afflicting the area is that of bad smell emanating from the solid waste recycling plant located closely, adding that the continuity of this problem has created bad psychology among residents.

He added that despite frequent complaints lodged with Kuwait Municipality to put an end to the bad smell problem, nothing has been done, and the smell is growing stronger. Needless to say that it has a harmful effect on youngsters and adults, and is a source of disease.

He said that the smell is causing irreparable damage to the central AC system, which requires regular maintenance every six months. He pointed out that despite the intention of the Municipal Council to relocate it to respond to unending complaints, not a finger has been lifted yet.

He called on the Ministry of Health to set up an ad-hoc committee to investigate into the health and environmental hazards caused by the bad smell which drives so many people to hold their wedding receptions somewhere else to avoid the unbearable stench.

tomorrow, but since the discussions are running ahead of schedule, they might come to a close today.

A closed session is due to be convened tomorrow, during which members will discuss the status of the cultural heritage in occupied Jerusalem, settling Alecs's situation in Cairo after the Arab League has named Tunis as the organisation's headquarters and the payment of membership dues.

Dental college imperative: Aidan

By Nashat Al Agha

THE head of the dental division Dr Bader Al Aidan has said that the Dental Medicine Department is providing excellent service to both expats and citizens, and that the dental services are constantly developing since 1951.

He told Seyassah that it is becoming increasingly important to set up a college for dental medicine to meet the existing shortage in specialist dentists and reduce the long period of wait that patients have to endure before they can get a chance to see the dentist.

Dr Aidan said that the establishment of the proposed dental medicine college will primarily provide specialised Kuwaiti dentists, in order to meet the existing shortage of staff which led to the hiring of expats due to the unavailability of Kuwaiti doctors.

He said that the Department of Dental Medicine has, according to 1988 statistics, about 383 dentists, only 91 of them are Kuwaitis, and 90 dental technicians of whom only 33 are Kuwaitis.

He said that the nursing staff number is 403, of which 217 are Kuwaitis, accounting for 54 per cent of the total number of nurses.

He added that the total number of dentists operating in the public sector in 1988 is 1 for every 5,113 people, and the department has 783 dentists taking care of 1,958,455 people, (Kuwait's total population).

He said that the daily average of outpatient clients is 173 for each dentist, and the total number of outpatient clients in 1988 was about 1,460,703, at 5,410 daily.

He said that the Ministry of Health has intensified its programmes on dental and oral health, and that implementation of these programmes began in 1983/84 catering to 10,000 students, boys and girls over four years, along with the prevention and treatment programme, while an American team of specialists undertaken the training of dentists and lays down the programme plan.

1988 witnessed a great growth in preventive services offered to the public and students, and the number of beneficiaries among students increased against the increase of dentists working on these programmes and related clinics.

Dr Aidan said that the division contains 12 clinics, fully equipped with latest technologies, with 10 maoequeens for practical experiments, central sterilisation room, dental X-ray equipment, four classrooms, one medical library with required audio-visual equipment as well as two maintenance workshops for dental equipment and to hold staff training seminars.

He said that there is also a special unit for training and continuous education where a number of refresher and training courses on diseases of the gums were held, and also the use of computers in orthodontics as well as several other courses for nurses operating at the military hospital at the defence ministry.

Ajman ruler's brother laid to rest

AJMAN, UAE, July 23, (Kuna): The body of Sheikh Ali Bin Rashed Al Nuaimi Hamad, brother of the ruler of Ajman, was buried here yesterday.

Ruler of Ajman and other prominent rulers led the huge crowd of mourners.

The ruler of Ajman returned Saturday night from abroad for the funeral procession.

The diwan of Ajman's ruler, Sheikh Hamad Bin Rashed Al Nuaimi announced the passing away of Sheikh Ali Bin Rashed Al Nuaimi.

Mourning the deceased, government offices in the Ajman emirate will be closed for three days as of yesterday while flags will be flown half-staff for seven days, the diwan said.

Administration under development at Paaet

Research on training

THE Public Authority for Applied Education and Training is currently witnessing for the first time a sophisticated administrative development movement.

Entitled the "Nineties Project" it reflects development on the employment level and organisational plans.

The authority's administrative sector has carried out studies on all current systems at the authority in addition to reviewing models already implemented towards evaluating employee performance on which it will base its comprehensive administrative development process.

The project is basically intended to design a master plan for manpower at the authority.

A local daily interviewed General Director of Paaet, Dr Abdul Rahman Al Mhaisan who said that the authority has carried out a study on administrative systems currently implemented at the authority. The study concluded that it is necessary to modernise and develop several organisational and employment requirements to improve performance.

Teams

Dr Mhaisan indicated that the Nineties Project covers several development aspects at the authority such as completing organisational structure, designing a comprehensive system to describe authority current posts, creating new operational and management policies for departments, study and review current models applied for the evaluation of authority employees, putting a complete organising structure for manpower plans at the authority, and indicating training requirements.

Dr Mhaisan indicated that the project depends mainly on two main working teams consultation and implementation.

He added that the Centre has prepared a special programme

for the graduation of instructors, which involves three different programmes, one for the preparation of instructors, one for instructor operation and other for orientation in operation of training aids.

He said that the ministry work plan aims at developing the functional staff at different administrative levels, as well as upgrading performances of individuals and departments. The plan is a five-year scheme, each single year is termed a training year, which the ministry started to implement in July 1987 to end 30 June 1992.

Implementation

The training year begins with the fiscal year and ends with it. It is divided into two sections, each lasts for six months during which programmes and symposia are organised separately to facilitate implementation by the ministry departments.

Moasharji added that the training plan runs on two parallel lines. One involves all employees working in the fields of budgeting, accounting, storing, purchases in all government ministries, totaling 4,500 employees. The other involves the ministry's staff only totalling 1,000, the average participation of each in three programmes.

He said that the centre has trained and qualified a number of researchers in the field of carrying out an evaluation and conducting a research, adding that all questionnaires used before and after the training programme are fed into the computer.

He said that there are three types of questionnaires used in the centre, one for trainees, one for the supervisor and one for the supervisor. This enables the centre to rate and evaluate the performance of the trainee in relation to the output of the instructor.

He added that the Centre has prepared a special programme



Manufacturing company talks

Minister of Commerce and Industry Nasser Al Roudhan received at his office recently Dr Abdulla Al Majeed and Abdul Aziz Al Bisher who explained to the minister steps to establish the United Gulf Manufacturing Company and activities of the company. The idea to establish the company was brought up during the conference of Gulf manufacturers that was organised by the Gulf Organisation for Industrial Investments.

Foreign shares draft law in September

THE executive charter law for dealing in financial papers and establishing investment funds for foreign companies has allowed these foreign companies to offer their shares for public contribution in Kuwait, provided the activities of these companies do not violate public values. The draft charter is expected to be issued next September by a ministerial decision allowing establishment of local companies to market foreign financial papers provided their capital is not less than KD500,000 and they submit a bank guarantee of KD250,000.

According to the draft charter the foreign companies will be able to trade in foreign financial papers and shares of investment funds in Kuwait through local agents registered with commercial agents. The charter asks the administration of the stock exchange to supervise records of share holders in companies not registered in the stock exchange. The administration should agree on the deals. The charter considers "the agent of the foreign company that deals in buying and selling financial papers as the sponsor for all activities in Kuwait. The charter stressed on the necessity to use Arabic language in all contracts, deals, correspondence and advertisements of the foreign companies. The records of activities of these companies will be under the control of the Ministry of Commerce and Central Bank.

Anti-insect campaign begins

By Abdullah Al Shemari

AN official source at the General Authority for Agricultural Affairs and Fish Resources has informed Seyassah that the authority has carried out necessary measures to combat the spread of the Arabian Chager in public gardens.

The source told Seyassah that many complaints have been received lately by the authority from a number of citizens regarding this annoying insect. Complaints stated that the Arabian Chager was a cause of disturbance to many patrons in public gardens and residents at building sidewalks. A full investigation was carried out by the Agricultural Guidance Department to figure out facts about this insect.

Majeda Khalid Mahmoud,

Seized narcotics to be destroyed at Sabah

400,000 pills confiscated in 1989

THE director of control and inspection department at the General Customs Authority, Abdul Rahman Al Fares has said that inspectors of the department seized 63 pieces of hashish, 8 pieces of marijuana, 12 marijuana filled cigarettes, hashish, two bags of cocaine, ten small pieces of opium and 13 bags of heroin during last year.

Labour law

Amendment to activate economy, says Jaber

THE recent decision No. 92/1990 reducing the period of transferring residences in the private sector to two years is intended to activate the national economy.

Speaking on the issue, Minister of Social Affairs and Labour Sheikh Jaber Al Abdulla Al Jaber Al Sabah said that when the decision No. 87/1989 was issued, it was stipulated that the authorities would evaluate the results of the application and should the need arise, these would be amended.

The official said that to achieve public interests and to be flexible and taking the interests of employers and employees into consideration the decision was amended.

Speaking on prices of commodities at co-operative societies, the official said that most of these complaints related to the increase in the price of vegetables and fruits. He said these items are seasonal and consequently follow the principle of supply and demand. He cited the example of last Ramadan when demand increased and prices followed.

However, he said that all other commodities have a unified price monitored by the Union of Co-operative Societies. Any increase in these prices is not due to the union, but is the result of an increase by exporters or difference in currencies. The union determines price of any commodity on the basis of profit margin ranging between 7 and 10 per cent of the cost price, he said.

He pointed out that specialised committees of the ministry provide the Civil-Service Commission with suggested organisational structure of the ministry, including the training requirements of staff.

The minister pointed out that Kuwait has a continuous and effective presence in all labour and social Arab and international organisations. Kuwait joined the Arab and international labour agreements which became the basic source of labour laws in different countries of the world.

20 cholera cases found

TWENTY cholera cases have been discovered among expatriates who arrived at Kuwait from neighbouring countries and all have been kept in isolation at the Infectious Diseases Hospital a responsible source at the Ministry of Health said.

Nevertheless, Kuwait has been confirmed to be free of cholera and the intermittent cases are attributed to returning tourists during the summer season.

Last year, 133 cases of cholera were discovered among expatriates coming into the country. All cases have been reported to the World Health Organisation and neighbouring countries in keeping with the international accord on health.

He called on all passengers arriving into Kuwait to ensure that they report to the nearest health centre for medical checks.

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Taxidermy course

A special summer course in taxidermy organised by the Kuwait Science Museum in co-operation with the School Activities Department concluded its activities yesterday.

The two-week course which was taken by more than 300 students, boys and girls, including theoretical lectures by specialists on how to stuff and preserve birds, fish and insects, as well as how to dry plants, through simplified scientific techniques.

Kuwait

Kuwait presented this memo [to the UN] we never requested that the memo be distributed to member states, nor did we seek any action in this regard on the part of the secretary-general," the source said.

The official Kuwaiti source said Kuwait sent to the Arab League a reply memo stressing Kuwait's commitment to the League's charter and its keen interest in solving such a problem "among brothers" within the League's framework.

The source also noted that in addition to its contacts with Arab countries over the row, Kuwait has received Arab League Secretary-General Chadi Klibi in the past 24 hours in part of the League's efforts to contain the issue.

Confirmed

A UN spokesman confirmed today that Kuwaiti Ambassador Mohammad A. Abulhassan met with Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar on the oil dispute between Iraq and Kuwait.

The spokesman insisted, however, that Kuwait did not ask for any

action by the secretary-general, but met him only to explain the Kuwaiti position.

Regret

■ Kuwait yesterday expressed deep regret and dissatisfaction at the sudden crisis between Kuwait and Iraq and hoped that Baghdad would take a "just and practical" position to enable Arab efforts from ending this dispute, in a way to keep the good relations between the two countries intact.

Secretary-general of the Kuwaiti cabinet Abdul Aziz Mohammed Al Oteibi said, following the weekly cabinet session held under the chairmanship of HH the Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah, that the council reviewed the outcome of contacts and meetings within the Kuwaiti diplomatic drive to resolve the Kuwait-Iraq misunderstanding.

Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed also reported to the cabinet on his GCC tour, during which he handed Gulf leaders messages from HH the Amir on the unexpected Iraqi stance and the negative repercussions that might result from it.

Klibi

Arab League Secretary-General Chadi Klibi has scrapped his mediation in the Iraq-Kuwait crisis until he is ensured of Iraq's co-operation, diplomatic sources reported today.

Klibi, after two days of talks with Kuwait's leadership, left yesterday for his headquarters in Tunis. He did not proceed to Iraq as had been anticipated.

The sources, who spoke on condition they not be named, said that he would head back from Tunis to Baghdad once he was assured of sufficient willingness for co-operation by Iraq.

Egypt meanwhile has reportedly proposed a four-point solution to Iraqi Foreign Minister Tareq Aziz, now visiting Cairo.

According to a report from Cairo news agency, the points are:

■ Excluding the threat of military action by any party against the other.

■ An Egyptian shuttle for rapprochement of views between the two countries, with help from other Arab countries welcomed.

■ A reconciliation meeting at foreign ministers level, possibly in Cairo, with the participation of a limited number of Arab countries who have political weight."

■ The ending of all media campaigns against each other.

Speaker of the Kuwaiti National Council Abdul Aziz Al Misaeed was quoted as saying that a speedy settlement to the Kuwaiti-Iraqi differences was feasible.

In a press statement released in East Germany Misaeed said that His Highness the Amir, has proposed the formation of an independent Arab League committee grouping three or four foreign ministers.

Misaeed said that the Amir proposal was contained in messages dispatched to leaders of the Arab countries through personal envoys.

He noted that the League was currently discussing the formation of that committee which is to supervise the demarcation of the Kuwaiti-Iraqi borders based on historical documents.

In his first public comments on the row, Syrian President Hafez Al Assad said quiet diplomacy was needed to resolve the issue.

"President Assad said there should be no escalation and (stressed) the necessity of solving Arab differences by talking," the Syrian news agency

Fares pointed out that customs inspectors also seized about 400,000 narcotic pills, 477 bullets, 175 guns and a large number of porno magazines and video films. They also seized 31,700 bottles of whiskey last year. The department arrested 54 persons on charge of illegal infiltration into the country. Fares pointed out

that customs men arrested many other individuals, specifics of which cannot be mentioned for security reasons. The department also seized 36 customs violations last year.

On the other hand, it was said that relevant authorities will destroy a large

quantity of narcotics next year. The Narcotics Prosecution prepared lists of quantities that will be destroyed. It determined July 30 as the date to destroy about 5 million narcotics pills, a quantity of hashish and opium besides some other narcotics. They will be burnt in the central oven of Sabah Hospital.

KLTC to ensure healthy sheep

THE chairman and managing director at Kuwait Livestock Trading and Transport Company (KLTC) Faisal Al Khozan was quoted as saying that the company is extremely keen to ensure the import of sheep free of diseases.

In an interview with a local daily, the official said that the political and economic circumstances which were prevailing in the region had directly affected the performance of the company as well as the performance of their counterparts in the region. He clarified that the ravages of war and the political tension prevailing in the post-war era in the area during the past years had significantly affected all the livestock companies in the area.

Meanwhile, the official said that Kuwaiti individual meat consumption was relatively high compared to other GCC citizens. He declared that Kuwaiti citizens consume about one third more than their European counterparts on an annual basis.

(Continued from Page 1)

Sana quoted the president as telling envoy Abdul-Rahim Al Awadi, Kuwait's Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs.

Sana said Awadi delivered a message on the dispute to Assad from Kuwaiti Amr.

The Kuwaiti minister, who arrived from Jordan yesterday, will leave for Lebanon later today to hand a similar message to President Elias Hrawi.

A Kuwaiti parliamentary delegation to visit Arab capitals to back up the government's diplomatic offensive with regard to the Iraqi-Kuwait dispute, reported an influential local daily today.

The newspaper quoted parliamentary sources as saying the idea will be tabled before the National Council for approval in its Tuesday's session.

Palestinian President Yasser Arafat received a message last night from the Amir of Kuwait on the recent dispute between Kuwait and Iraq.

The message was delivered to Arafat by the special envoy of Kuwaiti Amr, Minister of Justice and Legal Affairs Dhiari Al Abdulla Al Othman during his meeting with the Palestinian president.

Following his meeting with Arafat, Othman told Kuna that the message included Kuwait's position on latest developments in the Arab arena and necessity to move at the Arab level to contain any accidental crisis among brothers.

Yemeni President Ali Abdulla Al Saleh yesterday HH the Amir of Kuwait and President Saddam Hussein had demonstrated full understanding of the need to resolve the row between their countries amicably.

Saleh, briefing the presidential council on his contacts with several Arab leaders on the dispute between Kuwait and Iraq, said his country will continue to play a leading role in efforts to bring about pan-Arab solidarity in the face of the "Zionist enemy" of the nation.

Egypt meanwhile has reportedly proposed a four-point solution to Iraqi Foreign Minister Tareq Aziz, now visiting Cairo.

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Riyadh-Beijing ties established

Taipei cuts relations, Chien resigns

JEDDAH, July 23 (Agencies): Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen yesterday delivered an invitation to King Fahd of Saudi Arabia to visit Beijing following the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries.

Diplomatic sources, speaking on condition they not be named, said however that ties with Moscow were not expected to be established this year.

In the ultra-conservative kingdom, communism was long held to be akin to atheism. The dramatic changes that started with the *perestroika* of Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and spread to East Europe and other communist nations helped change the Saudi outlook.

After the audience with the Saudi monarch, Qian told a press conference that the invitation from President Yang Shukan had been accepted by King Fahd and the date would be fixed later.

The meeting was attended by Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal who signed the documents with Qian establishing the theocratic kingdom's first diplomatic tie with a communist nation.

Prince Saud rushed back late Saturday night from a mediation mission in Baghdad to defuse the Kuwait-Iraq crisis for the signing ceremony, which took place in the capital Riyadh before the two ministers came to Jeddah for the meeting with the King.

Qian told the press conference that his talks with the Saudi monarch were "very friendly" and confidently predicted an impressive development in economic and trade relations between the two countries which he noted existed before the establishment of diplomatic ties.

He also spoke at length about Beijing's stand on the Palestinian problem, stressing Chinese keenness to see a just settlement of the Middle East problem at a UN-sponsored international peace conference with the participation of the five permanent members of the Security Council.

Qian deplored the Soviet Jewish influx into Israel, the suspension of the American peace dialogue with the Palestine Liberation Organisation and the formation of a hardline government in Israel as "impediments" to a settlement.

China, he stressed, stood for a peaceful settlement and the "non-resort to violence."

He added: "There should be mutual recognition between the State of Palestine and Israel and peaceful co-existence between Israelis and Arabs, and the key to that lies in respect for the right of Palestinians to self-determination and an Israeli pullout from occupied Arab territories."

Asked about the status of Muslims in China, whom he estimated at 16 million, Qian insisted that they enjoyed religious freedom "guaranteed by the government" and that there were no less than 20,000 mosques in China.

Following the signing ceremony in the capital Riyadh, Prince Saud was quoted by the official Saudi Press Agency as saying the move is "an important step that will have an impact on the interest of the two nations and the interest of our Arab and Islamic nations."

Expressing his satisfaction at the decision, he noted that China "enjoys prominent international status and has a glorious reputation and history."

Taipei would keep the door open to other ties, Nationalist Taiwan's Foreign Ministry said in a statement.

Taipei has lodged a strong protest with Riyadh against what it called the disruption of long-standing close ties, the statement said.

"In view of the kingdom's disregard of the traditional friendship between our two countries, the government of the Republic of China is the sole legitimate government representing the entire Chinese people."

Taipei cut diplomatic links with Saudi Arabia yesterday after the kingdom switched recognition to China, charging Beijing was engaging in "missile diplomacy" to win new diplomatic partners.

Taipei would keep the door open to other ties, Nationalist Taiwan's Foreign Ministry said in a statement.

"They have not even revealed what they expect out of this round of talks," said Chien.

Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen has arrived in Cyprus after his visit to Saudi Arabia, during which Riyadh and Beijing established diplomatic ties.

Qian, who will spend three days in the island, was due to meet President George Vassiliou and Foreign Minister George Iacovou on Monday.

The Cyprus News Agency said UN-sponsored efforts to reunite the divided island were likely to be one of the main topics.

Asaad Abdul Aziz Al Zuhair, Saudi Arabia's former ambassador to Taiwan, told reporters Sunday, his country's ties with Taiwan will remain. "I can assure you there is nothing to be worried about," he said. At his

right is an unidentified journalist.

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

IT IS a great nuisance that knowledge can only be acquired by hard work — W. Somerset Maugham, English writer (1874-1965).

Global power shifting

America role is changing

WASHINGTON, (AP): It was a snapshot of shifting global power: A beaming Mikhail Gorbachev and Helmut Kohl standing together and announcing to the world an agreement that increased the momentum toward German unification.

Relegated to the sidelines for the moment, US President George Bush cheered on the Soviet and German leaders with back-to-back telephone calls.

There is no question that Bush has been instrumental in the Western response to swiftly moving events in the Eastern bloc. But his long-distance reply to the Gorbachev-Kohl summit last week illustrates America's changing role in the world.

After decades of projecting global influence on the strength of its nuclear arsenal and economic power, the United States is struggling to adjust.

Leadership

"America's leadership is still dominant but now it has to be based on a bigger variety of factors than just who has the bomb," White House Press Secretary Marlin Fitzwater said. "It's a greater test of leadership to guide events in this climate."

Stephen Hess, of the Brookings Institution, an influential think tank, said, "we're not a hapless giant, we're an important player. But it's no longer a bipolar world" of just the United States and Soviet Union.

Whereas former president Ronald Reagan sought to assert US dominance to counter Soviet military might, Bush offers the hand of friendship to Moscow and strives for accommodation and conciliation with resolute Western allies.

The Kremlin, long the chief adversary to Washington, is regarded today as more of a welfare case as its Warsaw Pact crumbles and its military muscle fades.

"We're still No. 1 militarily," University of Virginia political scientist Larry Sabato said. "The bad news is that it doesn't matter as much as it did two or three years ago. As the importance of the military declines, power has got to flow to Bonn and Tokyo, in particular."

Indeed, West Germany, surging toward unification with East Germany and a prosperous future, and Japan, basking in great wealth, are the major rivals to the United States for political and economic influence.



Bush: instrumental

While offering words of encouragement to developing democracies the United States is restrained by its economic problems. Tokyo replaces Washington as the world's biggest foreign aid donor.

Duke University political scientist James David Barber assesses the United States as "a secondary nation rather than as the leading champion of democracy in the world. . . ."

"The president of the United States is not coming forth as a person standing for global democracy but rather a person responding to (South Africa's Nelson) Mandela, to (Czechoslovakian President Vaclav) Havel, to (Soviet President Mikhail) Gorbachev and trying to wing it on the basis of the placidity of the American people," Barber said.

After the seven-nation summit in London this month, America's allies spoke comforting words on Washington's global role.

"There are three great groups of nations at the summit, one based on the dollar, one based on the yen, and one based on the deutsche mark," British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher said.

French President Francois Mitterrand said, "I hope America does not have the idea they resort to fit. That is not the case. The threat from the Soviet world has been reduced. Because of that, Europe can assert its personality."

Changed

Bush acknowledges that times have changed. "Earlier on, in terms of the alliance, we had a much more formidable military opposition. Now we see the Warsaw Pact in almost a state of disarray, we see troops coming out, we see democracies replacing totalitarian systems. So you have an entirely different era," Bush said.

Despite the new environment, the White House is determined that the United States not appear as a passive player in global developments.

After Gorbachev dropped his objections to a unified Germany in March, Bush felt it was necessary to offer a detailed explanation of how the United States had helped advance German unification.

Similarly, Bush points out that it was the United States that charted the new direction adopted by Nato at its recent summit. The administration also credit itself with leading the West toward conventional arms cut in Europe and arranging assistance for Poland, Hungary and other emerging democracies.

Political scientists Sabato observed that, "American power doesn't matter as much anymore. On the other hand, which country are these newly emerging democracies emulating? It's the United States and Thomas Jefferson that they're quoting."

TODAY IN HISTORY

1545 — French fleet leaves the Solent in England unscathed after a successful attack.

1704 — British capture Gibraltar during war of the Spanish succession.

1712 — Dutch are defeated by French at Denain, France, and join Anglo-French truce.

1799 — Francis Napoleon Bonaparte defeats Turks at Aboukir in Egypt.

1847 — Convention of Gramido ends civil war in Portugal.

1850 — Schleswig-Holstein insurgents, whose territory was divided by peace of Berlin between Denmark and Prussia, are defeated at Instedt.

1922 — League of Nations Council approves mandates for Palestine and Egypt.

1942 — British bombers devastate German cities of Frankfurt and Mannheim in World War II.

1946 — United States makes first underwater test of an atomic bomb off Bikini in Pacific Ocean.

1969 — US Apollo 11 astronauts, first men to walk on moon, splash down safely in Pacific Ocean.

1970 — Sultan Said of Muscat and Oman is overthrown by his son, who becomes Sultan Qaboos.

1971 — State of emergency is declared in Sudan during government crisis.

1973 — Four men who hijacked Japan Airlines plane release the 137 occupants, then blow it up and are arrested in Libya.

1976 — US space craft Viking I lands on Mars and starts tests to determine whether life exists on the planet.

1977 — Egypt's president Anwar Sadat orders his troops to observe immediate ceasefire in fighting with Libya.

1988 — Soviet military officer expresses doubt that Afghan army can hold its own after Soviet troops leave country.

Arafat not welcome in Cairo

Egyptian daily headline proclaims

CAIRO, (Reuters): Egypt and PLO leader Yasser Arafat are at daggers drawn, only months after they were closely co-ordinating a strategy for Middle East peace.

"Excuse me, Yasser Arafat, the Egyptian people will not be happy to receive you tomorrow or after tomorrow," said a front-page headline in Saturday's afternoon daily Al Messa.

The Palestine Liberation Organisation chairman was expected in Cairo this week. Official sources said they did not yet know if the war of words would force a postponement.

But Cairo-based diplomats believe the furore, while it may simmer for some time, will pass.

Cut

"I don't believe t(Egypt's President Hosni) Mubarak is going to go so far as to cut ties with the PLO. It's a love-hate relationship," said one European envoy. "They need each other."

The diplomats said the row stemmed partly from frustration felt by both parties in failing to gain Israeli backing for proposed talks between Israelis and Palestinians.

Another important element, they said, was a shift in inter-Arab politics with Iraq emerging as bellicose champion of Arab rights and with Egypt and Syria mending a 13-year rift.

"I think both Iraq and the PLO were unhappy at (Syrian President Hafez) Al Assad's reconciliatory visit to Egypt eight days ago," said an Egyptian political analyst.

Syria and Iraq have been at daggers drawn for 20 years and the largely ideological rift has been widened by personal animosity between the two countries' leaders.

Syria and the PLO fell out during Israel's invasion of Lebanon in 1982.

Manipulation

Diplomats said that since the PLO's formation in 1964, it had to learn to cope with attempts at manipulation by Arab powers.

In turn, Arafat had learned to survive by playing one Arab capital off against another and ensuring he had at least one powerful ally at any one time. Iraq



Arafat ... unwelcome.

has long backed the PLO.

Cairo's state-owned daily newspapers have for three days carried front-page editorials attacking Arafat for remarks he is reported to have made about Egypt's close ties with Washington.

They reported Arafat telling Arab foreign ministers in Tunis that Washington was very generous in its aid to Israel, "while American aid to Egypt has reached the point where Egypt gets wheat weekly.

Iraqi Foreign Minister Tareq Aziz was also

quoted as joining in the criticism of Egypt and its ties with the United States. Aziz, due to arrive in Cairo on Sunday to discuss Iraq's row with Kuwait, said on Saturday he had been misunderstood.

Cairo is the largest recipient of US civil and military aid after Israel, receiving \$2.1 billion annually.

Egypt-PLO relations have long seen-sawed from hostility to warmth, echoing the shifts in Middle East power politics.

Ties

Ties were cut in 1979 when Egypt became the only Arab state to make peace with Israel. They were restored in 1983 after Syrian forces drove Arafat and his men from Tripoli in Lebanon.

In 1987 Mubarak ordered PLO offices in Cairo closed after an Egyptian delegation stormed out of a Palestine National Council meeting in Algiers because it considered a resolution on PLO-Egyptian ties too critical of Cairo.

Relations returned to a normal footing seven months later and reached a new peak of understanding in 1988, when Arafat recognised Israel's right to exist and renounced terrorism.

For Mubarak, that move represented a welcome endorsement of Egypt's cherished view that negotiation, not armed confrontation, holds the key to lasting Middle East peace.

Arafat became a frequent visitor to Cairo, working with Mubarak on proposals to bring Palestinians and Israelis together to discuss the future of the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The Palestinian uprising against Israeli occupation added a sense of urgency to their efforts.

Despite strong support from US Secretary of State James Baker, the joint diplomacy stalled when Israelis formed the most rightwing government in the Jewish state's history.

Washington suspended its 18-month dialogue with the PLO after a dissident Palestinian faction launched a seaborne assault on an Israeli beach on May 30.

Israel was delighted, Egypt dismayed by the US decision.

EC to probe Israel wish for peace

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, (Reuters): Three European Community foreign ministers arrive in Israel on Monday to find out if Israel's new right-wing government is serious about Middle East peace.

The overnight visit by the foreign ministers of Italy, Ireland and Luxembourg — the first major probe of the hardline government's views on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict — was co-ordinated with US Secretary of State James Baker.

"It quite suits the United States for the European Community to be frontrunners in this," a senior European diplomat said.

Baker was involved in fruitless efforts to arrange talks between Israel and Palestinians in Cairo earlier this year.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's broad-based government collapsed in March because he refused to agree to talks. Then instead of a more liberal government emerging, as Washington hoped, Shamir assembled the most rightwing administration in Israel's history.

Italy's Gianni De Michelis, Ireland's Gerry Collins and Luxembourg's Jacques Poos will arrive late on Monday and leave for a meeting with the Arab League in Tunis early on Tuesday.

Their visit is the first test of Foreign Minister David Levy, recovering from a heart attack suffered after he took up his post last month. Baker has

invited Levy to Washington on August 9-10.

Levy had openly opposed even the reluctant steps toward peace taken by the previous government but as foreign minister he has so far avoided a confrontation with Washington.

"They're coming basically to listen, to size up Levy on the peace process," the diplomat said.

Despite Levy's rightwing image he has proved a pragmatist in the past — he voted for an Israeli military withdrawal from Lebanon in 1985 — and he believes it is important to improve Israel's tarnished reputation in the traditionally friendly West.

Aid

The United States gives some \$3 billion in annual aid to Israel and the European Community buys more than half of Israel's exports.

Israeli officials complain the EC is using economic pressure for political goals. Publicly the European Community denies it, but privately its officials say all countries use economic muscle.

The EC scaled down scientific co-operation earlier this year to show disapproval of Israeli policy towards the Palestinians of the West Bank and Gaza Strip, who have been in revolt against the Israeli occupation for 31 months.

It also stepped up direct aid to the occupied areas, to rise fourfold to 12 million ECUs (\$15 million) by 1992.

The EC is about to appoint a representative to

oversee that aid, although vehement Israeli opposition to opening a new office in a Palestinian area means it will probably be attached to an existing EC office in Tel Aviv.

But most important for Israel is a shift in the EC approach to the Middle East, which in the past has produced declarations of principle with little influence.

Power

The EC decided it could have more impact by working closely with the United States, by far the dominant power in the region. A US-EC policy session in Brussels in June was devoted entirely to the Middle East.

"We know the United States has close contacts with the Europeans... that Mr. Baker met with European colleagues on a number of occasions recently," a senior Israeli official said when asked if the EC foreign ministers were co-ordinating with Washington.

The EC has long advocated an international conference on the Middle East and a greater role for the Palestine Liberation Organisation, proposals that are anathema to Israel. US thinking may be moving nearer the EC position.

Certainly Washington will listen closely when the EC ministers report their conclusion on whether Levy is prepared to end the delays that frustrated Baker's peace efforts.

Immigration hot topic in Australia

SYDNEY, Australia, (AP): Immigration is a hot topic for just about everyone in Australia except politicians, who find it an increasingly hot potato to juggle without getting burned.

Walk into a pub or party, pick up a newspaper or turn on the television and some facet of immigration usually is being discussed, often very emotionally.

But some critics claim polarisation of the issue is keeping the government from forging a coherent immigration policy as politicians walk a fine line between being branded racist or willing to sell out the country.

The long-simmering debate reached a high boil over the past month when Prime Minister Bob Hawke tried to grapple with the status of Chinese students seeking refuge in Australia in the wake of Tiananmen Square massacre.

Hawke compromised by saying the students could stay at least four years freely, and after that would not be forced to go home. To make room for them, he cut Australia's ceiling on immigrants from 140,000 annually to 126,000 and imposed restrictions on refugees wanting to move here permanently.

The compromise, not surprisingly, made no one happy. The students said they were left in limbo with a murky future. Refugee and immigrant groups blasted any cuts in the influx quota.

Foreign

The Australian, a national daily newspaper, said the decisions demonstrated the lack of foresight on the overall problem. It editorialised that government immigration guidelines are "a camel of a policy, a camel being a horse designed by committee."

On one hand is the argument that immigration generally has been a positive force; that an infusion of foreign blood brings needed skills, initiative, new perspectives and a generally young, eager workforce.

Critics counter that more immigrants will exacerbate pollution, unemployment, housing and other infrastructure problems. They also claim there is a trend toward ethnic enclaves instead of assimilation and express concerns that large chunks of prime land are being bought up by foreigners.

Much of the problem stems from Australia's large size and relatively small population, a combination that makes it look ideal for growth. The land area of 7,682,000 square kilometres (3,073,000 square miles) is roughly equal to the continental United States, while the population of 17 million is only 1/15th the size of America's.

But environmentalists say unless the desert can be made to bloom, Australia more appropriately should be compared with Canada, with its large tracts of almost-unusable tundra.

A submission by the Australian Conservation Foundation to the 1987 Fitzgerald report, the last omnibus study of the immigration issue, suggested that Australia already may have surpassed optimum

number of residents.

It claims the population "is rapidly degrading the environment and is therefore not sustainable in the long run."

Much of the population is centred in the coastal cities, which also tend to be the places

MIDEAST

French minister not involved in arms racket

MARSEILLE, France, July 23. (UPI): A state prosecutor denied today that a security officer at the French embassy in Beirut had accused a government minister of involvement in illegal arms traffic between France and Lebanon.

Prosecutor Olivier Drocet said officer Patrick Schaller, who was charged last week with participating in the arms-smuggling ring out of the French diplomatic mission, had stated only that the arms were shipped to France on two occasions aboard a special airplane used by Humanitarian Action Minister Bernard Kouchner.

Drocet said Schaller told prosecutors that the arms were turned over to Kouch-

ner's security agents by Brigadier Jean-Claude Labourette, the head of security at the French embassy in Beirut and was formally charged yesterday with operating the arms-smuggling ring.

Several French newspapers reported over the weekend that Schaller had accused Kouchner, a frequent visitor to Beirut, with being involved in the arms-smuggling scheme.

In a statement released in Paris Kouchner sounded a warning against those who for political reasons try to discredit the Humanitarian Action France carries out around the world and of which she can only be proud.

The minister cut short a summer vaca-

tion on the Mediterranean island of Corsica and was expected back in Paris later today.

In a related development in the widening scandal, the government announced today that it was immediately sending a team of investigators to Beirut to look into the matter.

A government spokesman said the investigators belonged to both the foreign affairs and interior ministries, but refused to release further details.

Police searched a villa belonging to Labourette last week and confiscated three rocket-launchers, automatic pistols, and a number of AK-47 Soviet-made Kalashnikov and US manufactured M-16 automatic assault rifles as well as large stocks of ammunition.

Police believe the weapons, bought cheaply on the Beirut market, were sold at huge profit to gangs in southern France. Officials believe some of the weapons may have been used in an attack on a security van in Marseille in which two officers guards were killed.

Investigators have described Labourette as the ring leader of the arms smuggling group, but it remains unclear whether higher ranking officers or even political figures were involved in the illegal operations.



French Human Rights Minister Bernard Kouchner (left) stands near Jean-Claude Labourette (right), head of the security at the French embassy in Beirut. (Reuter wirephoto)

PFLP-GC denies hand

Jordan kills 4 infiltrators

AMMAN, July 23, (AP): Soldiers shot and killed four armed Palestinian commandos of a dissident Damascus-based radical group after they crossed the border from Syria, police said yesterday.

A police official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the "heavily armed" commandos "illegally crossed into Jordan" through the northern border.

The official said the commandos carried documents identifying them as members of the Marxist Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command headed by Ahmed Jibril.

In Amman, a PFLP-GC official denied his group was involved.

"We deny the Jordanian police report," said Mustafa Khmyes, a member of the group's central council.

An army spokesman told the official Petra news agency that four unidentified commandos infiltrated into Jordan from an area "usually used by drug and arms smugglers," two miles (three kilometres) west of the Ramtha border post.

The desert-like area has been used by traffickers to smuggle their goods through Jordan to be shipped onward to neighbouring Arab states, primarily oil-rich Gulf countries.

The military spokesman told Petra the commandos were killed when "our men warned them to stop and they did not respond, which forced our army to open fire at them and they died."

He said the infiltration was at 10 pm (1900 GMT) Saturday.

Khmyes of the PFLP-GC said: "Our group did not infiltrate into Jordan and we did not plan any assassinations in Jordan. We are not responsible for this attack."

"These people are not members of our party and they might have been carrying false identity cards of the PFLP-GC," Khmyes said.

"Our policy is to spare Jordan from (involvement in) any military attacks against Israel and not to infiltrate into that territory or use this land for any illegal purposes."

"I ask the Jordanian government to present us the identity cards and disclose the names of the commandos who were killed during the infiltration."

The police official refused to give the exact location where the infiltration took place on the Jordanian-Syrian border.

But he said the incident took place late Saturday night and the group were shot "a few minutes after they actually crossed into Jordanian territory."

"An army patrol, monitoring the borders, saw them infiltrating into Jordan ... army officers only started to shoot at them after they were warned to stop and they refused," the police official said.

■ Jordan's Prime Minister Mu'ad Badran said martial law, in force since the 1967 Arab-Israeli war, would end when a military court settles the Petra Bank bankruptcy or immediately if parliament wishes.

■ A high-ranking Soviet official held talks with Jordanian Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Marwan Al Kasim on a number of regional and international issues.

■ Lawmakers have empowered a parliamentary committee to investigate government corruption cases including four involving former ministers.

■ Leftist political activists yesterday announced the formation of a new political bloc which groups all major leftist political parties and independents.



Jubilant Shimon Peres (top) lifting his thumb after defeating challenger Yitzhak Rabin (below) in critical vote on who should lead the right-wing government. (Reuter wirephoto)

Iran carpet export hit by dull designs

NICOSIA, July 23, (Reuters): Iranian carpet exports are being badly hit by a combination of smuggling, dull designs and shoddy workmanship, the Iranian news agency IRNA reported.

It said the exports played a key role in plans to make the economy less dependent on oil and six million people worked in the industry.

But it quoted Mohammad Reza Abadi, managing director of Iran Carpet Company, as complaining of a lack of raw materials, the use of derivative designs, a shortage of skilled manpower and no quality control.

Mohammad Ali Tayrani, deputy commerce minister for parliamentary affairs, urged training courses for weavers and the removal of economic obstacles facing manufacturers, IRNA said.

"If we are supposed to earn \$18 million from carpet exports in the ongoing five-year development plan, we should get back our place on international markets as soon as possible," Tayrani said.

Karim Ansari, a member of the union of carpet exporters, said the industry could be revived by letting every foreign-bound traveller take a hand-woven carpet out with him.

IRNA quoted a customs officer as saying some 70 per cent of exportable carpets were smuggled out by sea last year, greatly damaging the export drive.

Israel eases ban on Jordan river traffic

AMMAN, July 23, (UPI): Jordanian authorities said today that Israel has eased restrictions on Arab travellers crossing bridges over the Jordan river, reducing a backlog of people who had been waiting to enter the Jordanian side from the Israeli-occupied territories.

Col Hammad Al Attar, commander of Jordan's bridge guards, said Israel had allowed some 2,000 Palestinians to cross the King Hussein-Allenby bridge by midday today, and another 500 were expected to cross before the bridge closed later in the day.

Postcard campaign in United States

British bids to release hostages

BEIRUT, July 23, (UPI): Visiting British parliamentarians spoke today with House Speaker Husseini Al Husseini, officials said, but one of the lawmakers denied speculation the delegation sought help in the hostage crisis.

The officials said Conservative Party deputies Robert Adley, Colin Shepherd and Tim Rathbone met with Husseini at his residence in west Beirut on the Lebanese situation.

Husseini, a prominent Shiite politician who has a good relationship with Syria, held later a banquet in honour of the delegates at the seaside Summerland Hotel.

The delegation arrived in Muslim west Beirut yesterday on a so-called fact-finding mission, but analysts believed the visit would touch on the plight of Western hostages, notably British captives, held in Lebanon by Muslim extremists.

Adley, reached by telephone, denied reports the delegation was seeking freedom for Western hostages, saying, "our visit has nothing to do with the hostages" issue whatsoever.

In London, the Independent newspaper reported that Gerald Kaufman, the shadow foreign secretary for the Labour Party, travelled to Syria to try to break the deadlock over the British hostages held in Lebanon.

The envoy would ask the Syrian government to intervene and speed up the hostages' release, the Independent said.

"This is not in any sense an attempt to negotiate with Syrians," the Independent quoted Kaufman as saying.

Britain severed diplomatic relations with Syria in 1986 after it found evidence implicating Damascus in an attempt to blow up an Israeli El Al passenger plane at London's Heathrow airport.

The Neue Zuercher Zeitung newspaper reported Abu Iyad also said records confirming Abu Nidal's involvement in the abduction were found in a PLO raid against his group in the Rachidiyah camp near Tyrus last month.

hose and told her, "We hope that you will die."

Parish drove London-based Iranian journalist Farzad Bazoft to a military base which he was investigating for a story for the Observer. Bazoft was hanged in Iraq in March for spying.

She said Bazoft had not acted like a spy. "He did everything openly, in full sight of passers-by, including soldiers."

Parish cried as she remembered her last moments with Bazoft after an Iraqi judge delivered their sentences in Arabic with no translation.

"As we were taken from the courtroom I saw Farzad was as white as a sheet and he asked the interpreter: 'Did they say they were going to hang me?'

The interpreter laughed and said, "No. The judges said they are not going to hang you."

Parish said that in a carpark before being taken back to prison their armed guard walked off and turned his back on them.

"I stood amazed, this was a real chance. Just 30 yards (metres) away I saw freedom, a dash for it into the crowded streets. Better risk a bullet in the back, I

thought, than 20 years in jail, but Farzad was lost in thought. He couldn't move or speak and the chance was gone."

Parish said she worked out her own escape plan but her surprise release, after a plea from Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda, came before she had a chance to put it into action.

Bazoft might have been spared if he had refused to make the confession his captors demanded, a published report said.

Bazoft "believed his interrogators when they told him he would be released if he confessed," reported the Observer.

He held on to this belief until he heard the sentence of the court that he would be hanged, the report said.

Parish refused his urging to make a joint confession and was sentenced to 15 years in prison.

The Observer, which last week interviewed Mrs Parish about her 10 months under arrest and in prison, said that when she and Bazoft met in the interrogation centre where they were being questioned, the journalist told her: "Look. We'll probably be flying out in a day or so if we get these last points sorted out."

"One cannot expect Israel to swim alone in this hostile sea," Parish quoted Arens as saying, adding that the strengthening of strategic co-operation between Israel and the United States was an "important cornerstone in Israel's deterrent capability to avoid war in the Middle East."

Arens' talks with Cheney on Friday were the highest level contacts between the United States and Israel since last month's formation of Israel's new administration, the most right-wing in the country's history.

Peres defeats Rabin in leadership contest

Shamir govt takes sigh of relief at Labour vote result

TEL AVIV, July 23. (Agencies): Labour Party chairman Shimon Peres has defeated arch-rival Yitzhak Rabin in a bruising contest that appears to open the way to long leadership struggle while strengthening Israel's right-wing government.

Peres scored the surprise win yesterday in a Labour Party Central Committee vote on who should lead the fight against Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's Likud Party. Public opinion polls say Rabin is the only Labour leader who can defeat Likud.

"Likud is very happy tonight because Shimon Peres is the weaker within Labour until elections next year, relieving Likud of an effective parliamentary opposition.

Peres led Labour out of a coalition with Likud in March and then toppled Shamir over his refusal to accept a US proposal for talks with Palestinians. The talks in Cairo were to prepare Israeli-sponsored elections in the occupied territories.

Peres was given the first chance to form a new government devoted to the peace talks but was humiliated when two religious parliamentarians withdrew their support at the last minute.

Within three months of an historic parliamentary win, Labour was in opposition for the first time since 1984 and Shamir was back in power, at the head of the most hardline government in Israeli history and on a potential collision course with Washington, Israel's guardian ally.

Analysts said Peres' win did not erase his image among Israelis as an electoral loser.

He has failed to win a clear victory in four general elections since replacing then-prime minister Rabin as Labour head in 1977.

On July 12 Rabin won the first round when 60 of the 100 members in the Labour executive backed his request to advance the timing of the leadership contest. It recommended the 1,400-strong Central Committee should take the same decision.

The seven-hour meeting was at times a hissing match between Peres supporters, who made personal attacks on Rabin, and Rabin backers who argued Peres was well past his prime.

"Peres was a great leader in his time, not today ...," said parliamentarian Shimon Shitrit, a Rabin supporter.

"Even Moses accepted the announcement he must quit. But Shimon Peres refuses."

Several Labour members have urged both Peres and Rabin, 68, to step down with dignity to allow a younger generation to take over the party reins.

Four young Labour Party leaders, including former army chief-of-staff Mordechai Bar-On, 60, have said they will join the party leadership contest.

Peres suggested yesterday he would end his 13-year stewardship in favour of a younger, fresher leader.

Peres, a protege of Israel's founding father David Ben-Gurion, indicated he still might be in the race for the party leadership if Rabin sought the post.

"Since I am an old war-horse, I want to advise some things to those who will come after me," Peres told the committee members gathered at Tel Aviv's exhibition grounds. "When we started the (internal party) struggle, several young and promising comrades came to me and said, 'you don't have a chance. Get out with honour.'

"I want to advise those young people. Don't give up so easily," said Peres, whose comments were met with applause.

Palestinians kill 2 collaborators

'Israel speaks with two voices'

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, July 23. (AP): Israel speaks with two voices on human rights — a sweet one to the international community and a shrill one regarding repressive actions in the occupied lands, a legislator said today.

Amon Rubinstein, member of parliament from the liberal Shinui Party, said the way to ensure basic human rights for Palestinians under occupation was to incorporate the four Geneva conventions into Israeli law.

Israel has signed the conventions and declared repeatedly that it observes their provisions. But the conventions are not binding because, unlike in other countries, they were never made law, Rubinstein said.

The conventions are a series of treaties signed in Geneva, Switzerland, between 1864 and 1949 on the treatment of combatants and civilians in wartime.

A bill to adopt the conventions as law will be debated Wednesday by parliament. Rubinstein, sponsor of the measure, told a news conference that it can succeed if the left-leaning Labour Party requires its members to vote in favour.

"The Israeli government speaks with two voices," Rubinstein said, noting that the first voice declares the government follows the fourth Geneva convention on the rights of civilians in occupied lands.

In its second voice, Rubinstein said, "the government doesn't agree to apply the convention concerning basic humanitarian issues, such as house demolitions and deportations."

During the 31-month Palestinian uprising, Israel

Danger of war greater: Arens

NEW YORK, July 23, (Reuters): Israeli Defence Minister Moshe Arens told American Jewish leaders yesterday that Israel was very concerned about Iraqi threats and said the possibility of war was greater now than in the recent past, a US Jewish leader said.

According to the US Jewish leader, Arens told US Defence Secretary Dick Cheney during a three-day US visit that "glasnost has not come to the Middle East and the danger of war is higher now than in recent years."

Seymour Reich, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, also quoted the defence minister as expressing to Cheney "strong concern about Iraqi threats."

Reich said Arens also voiced concern about the military relationship between Iraq and Jordan, which has the longest border with Israel of any Arab neighbour.

Uriel Palti, a spokesman for the Israel consulate who also attended the meeting, quoted Arens as saying Israel's Arab foes were investing seven times the amount Israel was investing in developing and purchasing arms.

"One cannot expect Israel to swim alone in this

EVENTS**Social Roundup**

Al hosts Khan

INDIAN Minister of Communications Arif Mohammad Khan's visit to Kuwait has created quite a stir among the Indian community. The Kuwait chapter of the Non-Resident Indian Forum last night held a meeting with Khan at the Meridien Hotel to present some points of view regarding the concessions that NRIs are seeking from the Indian government.

Yesterday afternoon, Air-India's Manager P.R. Kanga hosted a luncheon reception for the visiting dignitary at the Sheraton Hotel. Some prominent members of the Indian community were present to shake hands and exchange pleasantries with Khan, a man of principles.

Cautioned the host: "All fares are taboo."

Mrs Kanga, in a blood red sari (I was told she is rarely seen in saris) welcomed the guests, giving them a taste of Indian hospitality in the ambience of the Italian Riccardo Restaurant. Also extending customary courtesy was Julie, Al's airport assistant

manager, who has been handling the post for over 13 years. "Oh, I love the job; and everything about this country is just so wonderful," she said in-between coaxing guests to wipe the dishes clean.

Among the guests was the philanthropist-businessman K.T.B. Menon, who somehow manages to keep a low profile but towers above the rest when he is in a room. Also present were Mrs and Sam Alphonso; Mrs and Joe Monteiro, Mohammad Merchant, in his (oh!) spotless suit, Rajan Nireshwaria, Indian First Secretary R.P. Singh and his wife, Krishna, and a host of other dignitaries.

George Tharakan, former assistant manager, Air-India, Kuwait, and presently manager, Trivandrum, handled us with his customary flair. He was in Kuwait to wind up home and say a final farewell to his friends.

Indian Ambassador A.K. Budhiraja and Mrs Budhiraja also graced the occasion. FA



Arif Mohammad Khan (second left) talks to Sam Alphonso, Joe Monteiro and other guests.



The Indian minister flanked by Mrs and Mr Budhiraja; standing: host Kanga and Mrs Kanga.



Steve Michael (second left) and Sheryl Pereira performing a duet; some members of the band are also seen in the background.

Hypnotic African sounds

By Abdul Razzak
Arab Times staff

HYPNOTIC African tribal music, the sounds of the oppressed, kept the audience entranced during a four-hour concert presented by the Afro-Arab Friendship Group on Sunday night.

Despite a moderate delay, it was worth waiting for "Let's Rock and Reggae" to kick off, and when the much-talked about gig finally started, it had us swaying to their electrifying music.

Out of the 30 more tracks played, 15 numbers were their own composition. The music was a blend of rock 'n' roll, blues, reggae and rock.

After the break, a young singer performed "Hello" by Lionel Richie, followed by a selection of Bob Marley's music. It's remarkable how much influence Bob's music is having on all sections of society.

Phil Daniels co-ordinated the show. She said a lack of coverage was one of the main problems they faced. However, they do get help from Imad Habib and the Mahdi Habib Establishment.

Plans are underway to hold an open-air concert in November at the Al Qadsiya Sports Stadium, funds to be held in aid of Eritrean refugees.



Tina Mathews (centre) did a reggae dance routine.

WHAT'S ON**Social****Summer Bazaar**

July 25: All vendors of the Ladies Friendship Association summer bazaar are invited to attend a meeting on Wednesday at the Crystal Room, Kuwait Regency Palace, 5-7 pm. For details contact Manal 574-9179.

Aug. 3: The Ladies Friendship Association's Big Summer Bazaar will be held in the Exhibition Hall at Kuwait Regency Palace Hotel from 9 am to 9 pm. Gift items, home products, handicrafts, toys, clothes and much more. Raffle for children. All are welcome. For details call Manal 574-9179.

Approb Who's Who' directory

THE Association of Pakistani Professionals and Businessmen (Approb) is planning to publish a "Who's Who" directory of prominent Pakistani professionals and businessmen resident in Kuwait by January 1991. The directory aims at providing information about all Pakistani proficient and distinguished in their professions.

Data forms are available free of cost from Approb executive board members and other locations. For further details contact Approb on Tel. No. 2425315, Fax 5323751, P.O. Box 2351, Salma, 22024 Salma, Kuwait.

A copy of the directory will be given free of charge to all individuals whose names will appear in the directory.

Filipino expats survey

The office of the welfare officer of the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration is launching an initial information campaign to conduct a survey of Filipino workers in Kuwait.

This will cover statistical data on the number of Filipino workers employed in the private companies and government institutions. It will also include such information as job classifications, tenure of contracts, duration of residence and other information about the workers.

The Filipino Workers Social Centre (FWSC) at the Philippine embassy is also inviting volunteers for its various social and welfare projects designed to minimise the mounting problems of overseas contract workers — thereby ensuring the general welfare of Filipinos.

The official survey form can be obtained from welfare officer, Alejandro Samia Santos at the following tel. Nos. 5329315, 5329316, 5329317, 5329318 & 5329319.

LIL

July 30: 10 am to 12 noon. LIL will hold a newcomer's coffee morning on Monday at the Sheraton Hotel, Mezzanine floor. Ladies new to LIL or Kuwait are welcome. For details contact Janet 2434941.

Summerbelly '90

Aug 2: United Goans Centre will hold Summerbelly '90 at the SAS Hotel's The Tent, Top Ranks and Hurricane Alley in attendance. For reservations call Tony, 2612024; Cyril, 2523920; Joe, 5655140.

Musica**Filipino rock opera**

July 27: *Kailangan ka ni maria* ... If you have the talent to sing and dance and act, you may be one of the performers required in *Maria makiling ... sang rock opera*, a musical play to be presented by Kamay (Kaliupunan ng Mapaglikhang Pinoy sa Kuwait) in co-operation with the Filipino Cultural Club (FCC) and the Philippine embassy on October 19, 1990 at the Kuwait Ice Skating Rink Theatre. The show is a folkloric stage play which will feature slow and hard rock songs, composed and adapted to dramatise the story, a Filipino rock band to play the music and some interpretative cultural dances.

Interested parties may join the audition on July 27, Friday at the Mabuhay Restaurant Ballroom from 4 pm to 8 pm. For further details, please contact any Kamay officer at their after-six headquarters, Mabuhay Restaurant.

Hotels

At the SAS Bistro: Sunday/Wednesday — pasta night; Italian music. Peacock Room: Chinese cuisine; lunch and dinner.

Al Boom: Kuwaiti experience; charcoal grilled food, plus mezze buffet. Clock: snack bar — burgers, french fries, etc. Coffee Shop: breakfast, lunch and dinner; 6am to 10pm.

TELEVISION PROGRAMME**KTV 1**

- 9.00 Holy Quran
- 9.15 Cartoons
- 9.40 Ifrah Ya Simsim: a programme for children
- 10.10 Good Morning
- 10.15 Waad Nahari: Arabic serial, featuring Azza Kamal, Mustafa Fahmi.
- 11.15 Sabah Al Khair
- 12.00 Al Ma'sara: Arabic serial, starring Jamil Awad, Juliet Awad, Abeer Essa
- 1.00 News Summary
- 1.05 World News via Satellite
- 1.30 Cartoons
- 2.00 Al Sanafer: cartoon serial
- 2.30 Surkhad Nadam: Gulf serial; starring Maryan Saleh, Ali Hassan
- 3.30 Mashrash Al Muwahib: Talented People's Theatre
- 4.15 Huwaar Wa Nagham: variety programme, presented by Hanan Al Sa'ati
- 5.15 Cartoons
- 5.30 Adventures: cartoon serial
- 6.00 Variety
- 6.30 Kar a Ma Kan'a: children's serial
- 7.30 Songs
- 8.00 Al Anees Wal Jalees: focus on Arab literature. Tonight: Alif Lila Wa Laila
- 9.00 News in Arabic
- 9.45 Al Zaera: Arabic serial, featuring Samira Ayoub, Salah Qabil, Shirleen, Abla Kamel.

- 11.00 Umm Al Arousa: Arabic feature film, starring Samira Ahmed, Imad Hamdi, Tahya Karioka, Hasan Yusuf..
- 12.20 News Summary
- 12.25 World News via Satellite
- 1.40 Holy Quran/Closedown

KTV 2

- 6.00 Opening announcement & Holy Quran
- 6.10 Chic and Dale's Rescue Team: A cartoon series.
- 6.30 The New Mickey Mouse Club: A new way to play hide and seek. Activities and ideas for children early teens.
- 7.00 International Overdoorman: "Exotic animals of the World." A look at the activities held by the animal protection association in the US to protect wildlife from extinction. Documentary.
- 7.30 Kate and Allie: "Wanted: One Husband." A rich woman offers Allie US\$30,000 to find a man similar to her husband in every respect. Comedy.
- 8.00 News in English
- 8.45 Border Town
- 9.00 Horizon: "Legacy of a volcano." A group of scientists attempt to restore life at St Helen Volcano. Documentary.
- 10.00 Perfect Strangers: "Better shop around." The cousins win a prize at the supermarket. Their problems begin. Comedy.
- 10.30 The Fortune of War
- 12.00 News in Brief
- 12.16 Magazine: D. Ac. Closedown
- 10.30 Late night film: "Cave in." A group of people are stuck in a 3,000 feet deep after it caves in.
- 12.00 News in Brief
- 12.16 Magazine: D. Ac. Closedown

Please note that Kuwait Television programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

CINEMA TODAY

Al Andalus
Jazira Al Sharq (Arabic)
Starring: Adel Imam, Asra

Al Salmiya
Halawa Al Roob (Arabic)
Starring: Kamal Shinnawi, Safiya Al Omari

Al Hama
Tah Al Siif (Arabic)
Starring: Najla Fathi, Salah Saadani

Drive-In
Jazira Al Saitan (Arabic)
Starring: Adel Imam, Yusra

Al Firdous
Pyar Ke Naam Qurban (Hindi)
Starring: Mithun Chakraborty, Dimple Kapadia

Fahaleel Open-Air
Abhimanyu (Hindi)
Starring: Mammootty

Al Fahheel
Hamraat Ghabra (Arabic)
Al Fahheel
Khalid Saeed Basheer (Bengali)

Al Salimiyah
Closed
Sulabiibat
Last Flight to Hell

Al Jleeb
Nai Bichar (Bengali)
Ahmed Drive-in

Oru Vadakkam Veeragadha (Malayalam)
Starring: Mammootty

PRAYERS

Fajr	3.38 am
Zahr	11.54
Asr	3.30 pm
Maghreb	6.41
Isha	8.07

At Holiday Inn Crown Plaza
Coffe Shop: open for early morning breakfast; also serves lunch and dinner.

Lobby Cafeteria: offers refreshments and snacks.

Babylon Gardens: features fresh fruit juices and refreshments.

At the Meridien
Al Fingan: open from 9 am to 11 pm daily, it offers a wide range of refreshments.

Al Waha: fears cool refreshments; open from 8 am to 9 pm, Saturday to Thursday.

At the International
Fallaka: situated on the 19th floor, overlooking the coastline, it offers international cuisine; live entertainment in the evenings. Closed on Fridays.

La Palma: offers buffet as well as a la carte. Family style on Fridays.

Lei: offers Japanese dining in an oriental atmosphere.

La Patisserie: selection of snacks; pianist in the evenings.

Al Waha: ice cream promotion featuring different flavours, until August 1990.

At the Sheraton:
Hunt Room: Daily buffet lunch in addition to a la carte; plus grilled specialties; a la carte dinner plus some specials from La Tambouche, Dun Fan-tasy in attendance.

Riccardo Restaurant: will be open for dinner 8pm to 11pm with live entertainment by Regina and Frances.

Coffee Shop: breakfast, lunch and dinner; 6am to 10pm.

British Council
The British Council is giving out information on how to get British qualifications through correspondence. Details about the names of colleges, dates and fees can be obtained from the Education Office, open from 9 am to 12.30 noon and 5 to 8 pm.

All entries for the What's On column can be sent by telex (22332) to Events Section or hand delivered daily, except Thursdays, from 12 noon to 4 pm, at the Arab Times Office in Shuwalikh. Photographs will also be considered for publication. Phoned-in entries will not be accepted.



Mathur farewell.



Edwin Dass and Naseer Khan



Inderjeet on stage.

الراصد

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Tunisia's balance of payments hit by oil and fertiliser prices

N. African leaders to study creation of Maghreb common market

ALGIERS, Algeria, July 23, (AP): The leaders of five North African countries ended a two-day summit today by agreeing to study creating a common customs service and agricultural market.

The measures taken by the heads of state of Algeria, Libya, Morocco, Tunisia and Mauritania pushed the regional bloc they created 18 months ago, the Union of Arab Maghreb, toward a more integrated economy.

An end-of-summit communique said agreements had been reached to encourage cross-border investment and to study the

details of creating a common customs service and agriculture policy.

On foreign policy, the leaders agreed to "morally, materially and diplomatically" support the Palestinian uprising against Israeli rule in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

They also urged Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi to defuse the war of words between Iraq and Kuwait over oil

prices.

Other details of decisions reached during the closed-door talks were not immediately available.

Algerian President Chadli Benjedid, who took over the union's rotating sixth-month presidency in June from Tunisian President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali, hosted the gathering.

Since creating the union last year, the five countries have agreed to waive passport checks at airports for their nationals, along the lines currently used within the 12-nation European Economic Community.

Ben Ali said Saturday that the union would ask the EEC to study the debt burdens of the Maghreb countries and review its aid policies toward the region.

One of the long-term goals of the union is to

create a common economic market. Chadli would like one by the end of the decade.

In recent months, the five nations have discussed creating a single union of Arab Maghreb airline and expanding rail and road transportation links between their countries.

Their foreign ministers have also encouraged expanded dialogue and co-operation with the EEC.

Low prices for oil and fertilisers and a worse than expected tourist season are straining Tunisia's 1990 balance of payments.

Economy and Finance Minister Mohamed Ghanouchi said in an interview published

yesterday.

"These weak points, which are already noticeable in the trade balance and in foreign exchange reserves, obviously call for attention," he told the government daily *La Presse*.

Ghanouchi said the fall in the price of crude oil, to \$14 a barrel recently from \$20 at the start of the year, had cost Tunisia 90 million dinars (\$101 million) in the first six months of 1990. Tunisia exports 60,000 barrels a day.

Prices had fallen 15 per cent in the chemical fertiliser market, he said. Exports of phosphates and phosphate derivatives were worth

476 million dinars (\$520 million) in 1989.

In tourism, the results for the first few months of the year were poorer than expected, as in most Mediterranean countries. He gave no figures but the government had forecast a one to two per cent increase over 1989, when 3.2 million people visited.

Ghanouchi said recent pay rises might push up inflation, running at between seven and eight per cent for the past two years.

Public-sector employees have received salary increases of up to 27 per cent, spread over three years, their first for several years, and there has been a series of strikes for higher

Slow growth: AL report

Low oil prices hurt all Arabs

ABU DHABI, July 23, (Reuters): Low oil prices hurt the people of all Arab states, and, in a seeming paradox, hit those in non-oil producing countries hardest, according to an Arab League economic report to be published this week.

Despite efforts to diversify, "oil revenues remained the main source of hard currency for oil and non-oil Arab states," the 21-member Arab League said in its annual economic report for 1989.

Figures in the report reflect not this year's fall in oil prices but a previous glut in 1988, when oil sold for \$14 a barrel and the combined

gross domestic product of the Arab states shrank eight per cent.

But many of the report's comments clearly apply as well to the effect of this year's conflict in Opec.

"Instability in the world oil market and prices has greatly affected the economies of producers especially Arab countries," said the report obtained by Reuters on Monday.

"The fall in real wages especially in non-oil countries has started to affect medium-income people. This will severely hurt development in the long run."

Britain's trade gap widens to £1.36b

LONDON, July 23, (UPI): Britain's trade deficit rose during June to £1.36 billion (\$2.47 billion), compared to £1.32 billion (\$2.41 billion) the previous month, the Central Statistical Office announced today.

Officials said the visible deficit was £1.56 billion (\$2.83 billion). Invisible earnings for intangibles such as insurance, tourism and services accounted for £200 million (£362.7 million), giving a June current account deficit of £1.36 billion (\$2.47 billion), they said.

Officials reported imports in June dropped to £10.2 billion (\$18.5 billion), 2.1 per cent lower than May.

Exports fell 2.8 per cent to £8.64 billion (\$15.7 billion), they said.

The £1.36 billion figure was in line with market expectations, and brought the second quarter current account deficit to £4.3 billion (\$7.8 billion), compared to £4.6 billion (\$8.3 billion) for the second quarter one year ago.

Economists said the government of Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher would have to reduce the imports further if it wants to reduce the deficit.

"The 12 per cent figure is good but we really cannot expect to see an improvement in the trade gap until import levels are brought under control. 3.5 per cent is still too high," said Phillip Turner, an economist for the Kleinwort Benson Group.

The June deficit brought the year's total to about £9.8 billion (\$17.8 billion), and exceeds the government's forecast of £15 billion for the entire year.

"We're going to have to see a marked and sustained improvement in imports and exports to achieve the 15 billion mark," said David Smith of Williams de Broe. "We think it is more likely to be around the 17 to 18 billion mark."

He said the recent surge in the pound would hinder exports by making them more expensive while making imports cheaper, and so widen the trade gap further.

"The strong pound could see Britain losing export orders in the long run, but it would make imports cheaper again, and with wages increasing quite considerably at the moment it does not look good for the British economy," he said.



Diving gear

Swimming instructor Tomoko Sato shows off a new, enriched oxygen breathing apparatus, lightweight diving gear made by Japan Oxygen Co. for more compact marine leisure. The tube weighs less than 1.8 kg, has tiny oxygen cartridges, and enables divers to stay underwater for ten minutes, to a maximum depth of five metres. (Raufer wirephoto)

Foreign investment in China drops in '90

Japanese decision welcomed

BEIJING, July 23, (Reuters): Foreign investment in China fell sharply in the first half of this year but an easing of foreign sanctions, imposed after last year's military crackdown, should mean growth in coming months, a Chinese official said today.

Liu Xiangdong, spokesman for the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade, welcomed Japan's recent decision to permit lending under a \$5.6 billion loan package frozen after the crackdown.

He called on other major industrial nations, which also imposed curbs on official lending to China after the army crushed a democracy movement in Beijing on June 4, 1989, to lift their sanctions.

Liu said the number of new foreign investment projects approved during the first half of the year fell 8.1 per cent from a year earlier to 2,784, and their

total contracted value slumped 22 per cent to \$2.35 billion.

He blamed the slump, which occurred despite a steep rise in investment from Taiwan, partly on what he called distorted reports by Western media on the political unrest last year.

Liu also linked the decline to greater selectiveness by provincial governments in the type of investment they permitted, as well as to an austerity programme that succeeded in checking inflation but choked off funds to Chinese and foreign companies.

He quoted ministry statistics as showing imports during the first six months of this year fell 23.7 per cent from a year earlier to \$13.33 billion.

Exports during the January-June period rose 21.7 per cent to \$24.5 billion, according to the ministry's figures.

Saudi riyal market slow

NICOSIA, July 23, (Reuters): The Saudi riyal interbank deposit market saw little activity in either short dates or fixed dates on Monday, dealers said.

The low level of business was due to the closing of Bahraini banks for the Islamic new year, said one dealer.

Rates were largely unchanged from those quoted Sunday, although three months was quoted slightly firmer at 7-7/8 7-3/4 per cent. One month was quoted at 7-11/16 7-9/16, and six months at 7-15/16 7-13/16.

The spot riyal was quoted around 3.7504/8 to the dollar.

Self-reliance advocated

South Commission focus

ZURICH, July 23, (Kuna): Every developing country should adopt a strategy of building the maximum amount of national self-reliance as rapidly as possible suggests Julius Nyerere, the former president of Tanzania and the Chairman of the Geneva-based South Commission, in an interview published yesterday in the International Herald Tribune (IHT).

Talking about the focus of the South Commission's report, to be published on Aug. 3, Nyerere said it advocates greatly increased and more deliberate South-South co-operation in all fields.

"In all negotiations, the North acts in concert, while the South does not. As a result, the much greater comparative strength of the North in relation to the South is increased, and the common interests of the countries of the South are to a large extent ignored. We urge that the South should face

up to the reality, and stand together in meeting the organised North," he said.

Nyerere said virtually all the countries of the South were in crisis. Aid, as defined by the World Bank, was two per cent less in real terms last year than the year before. Aid, loans, and direct investments are all likely to be further reduced in real, if not in nominal terms, in the coming years, he added.

As to how much of the Third World's problems were self-inflicted, Nyerere said there were a few countries where corruption at the highest levels was "scandalous." "For any Third World president to have millions, and sometimes reputedly billions, of dollars in overseas private bank accounts is a disgrace."

"But the most corrupt regimes in the South have the full backing of powerful northern interests,

including some governments," Nyerere alleged. But he also pointed out that "mismanagement" was not only the monopoly of Third World but was found in Europe and America as well.

Commenting on possible political and economic decay on the African continent, Nyerere said that would not be surprising. The standard of living has been going down or stagnating since more than a decade, just like the economic and social infrastructure, he said.

"Africa is excessively fragmented. Europe is moving towards unity. But on matters of continental unity and co-operation, almost every African leader is more conservative than Mrs Thatcher. Without unity and a renewed spirit of confidence and self-reliance, tragedy awaits Africa in the 21st century," he warned.

Other markets affected

NY stocks plunge

NEW YORK, July 23, (API): An unexpected plunge in stock prices spooked Wall Street today with a drop of more than 100 points in the Dow Jones Industrial average in the first 90 minutes of trading.

The Dow average, which had flirted with a record 3,000 close last week, tumbled 107 points to the 2,850 level by midmorning before regaining about 30 points of the loss by noon. At that time (1600 GMT) it stood at 2,887.62, down 73.52 from Friday's close.

"It just scared the hell out of everyone," said John Eberle, head of equity trading at the Chicago Corp. "It caught our attention."

The number of declining issues swamped advances by 8-to-1 on the New York stock exchange, where trading was active.

Many brokers were shaken by the sudden movements, which were aggravated by computerised selling strategies known as programme trading. Federal regulators were monitoring the situation.

"We're aware of the situation and watching it closely," said John Heine, a spokesman for the Securities and Exchange Commission in Washington.

The swift sell-off caused a brief automatic halt in the Standard and Poor's 500 stock-index futures contract, an important influence on stock prices, traded in the Chicago futures markets.

The halt was triggered by a "circuit breaker" mechanism put in place by the financial markets in the wake of the crash of Oct. 19, 1987, when the Dow average fell a record 508 points.

Brokers blamed the market's latest weakness on a number of causes, ranging from disappointing corporate earnings reports of leading US companies to the uncertain outlook for interest rates and the economy.

Oil rose by 10 cents a barrel in early trading to

20.16 dollars a 42-gallon barrel on the New York Mercantile exchange.

In the \$200 billion market for high yield bonds known as junk bonds trading almost came to a halt Monday morning while traders waited to see whether stock prices would recover from their steep slide.

Declining stock prices drove gold prices higher in New York. Gold for spot delivery rose 7.00 dollars to \$367.75 dollars an ounce in what brokers called a flight for safety from the stock market.

The US dollar declined in thin trading in New York, dropping to 1,6304 German marks from 1,6375 marks in London earlier in the day and 1,6385 marks in New York late Friday.

In London, share prices were higher at midday Monday, rallying from earlier falls on the back of a strong futures market and better than expected trade figures.

Dealers said the September Financial Times Stock Exchange 100 index futures contract was driving the cash market higher as it opened up a 75-point premium over equities. Normally the premium is about 45 points, dealers said.

Share prices were mixed on caution ahead of UK trade figures, and in the wake of a sharp fall on the Tokyo market, brokers said.

At its early quote, the Financial Times index was up 0.3 points at 2400.4.

In Tokyo, a volatile session left stocks broadly lower, and the Nikkei index dropped 526.73 points to 31,894.79.

In Hong Kong, the Hang Seng index was closed 19.46 higher at 3,559.89.

Turkey's big oil order to China

ANKARA, July 23, (Reuters): Turkey, needing more oil and seeking to diversify its sources, announced plans today for an eight-fold increase in purchases from China.

State Minister Mehmet Kececioglu, just back from a five-day official visit to China, said he signed an agreement to buy 675,000 tonnes in the remainder of 1990 and two million tonnes in 1991.

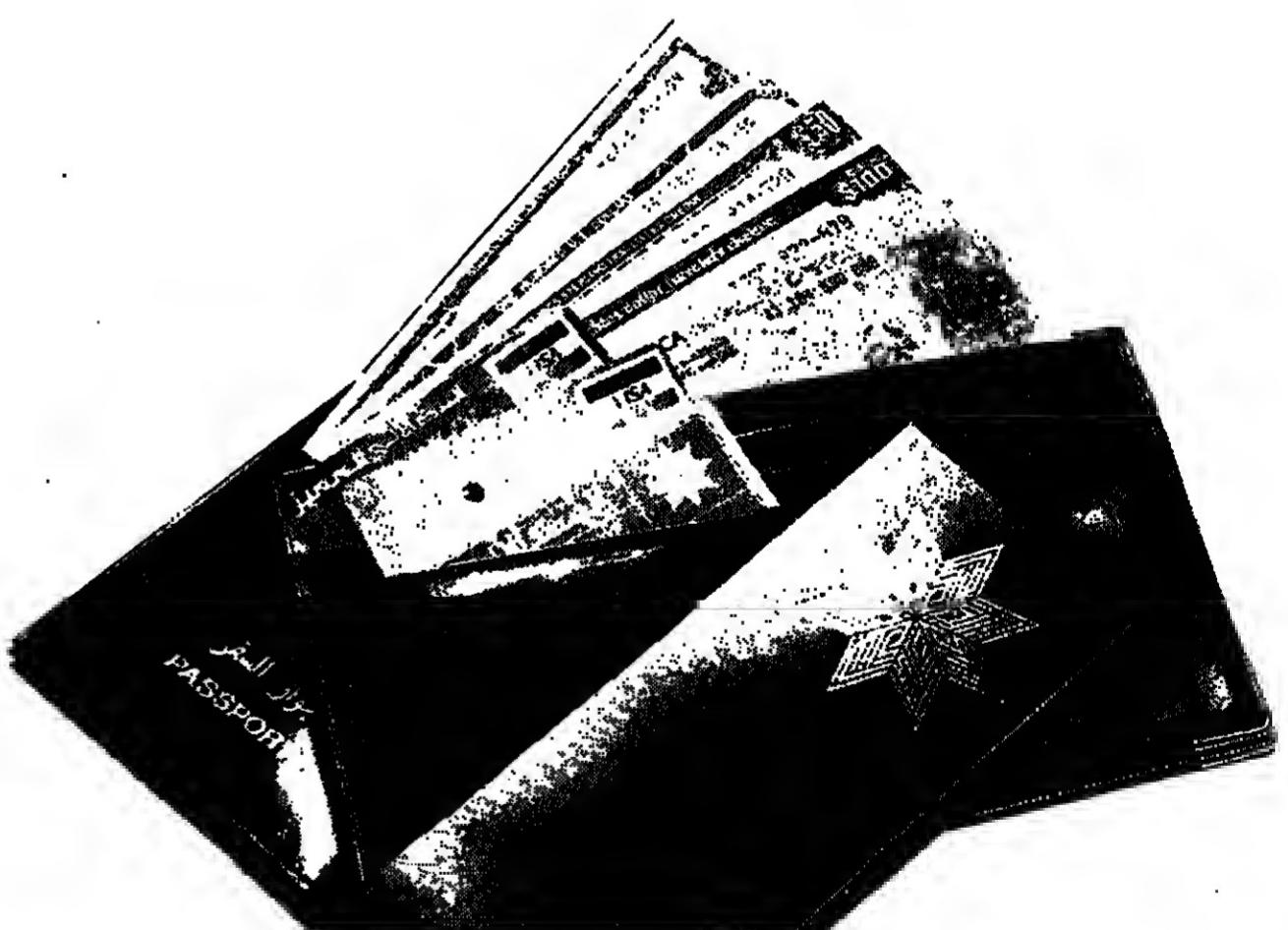
China supplied 257,000 tonnes of crude to Turkey in 1989, less than 1.5 per cent of imports of 18.62 million tonnes. Official sources expect total imports to reach 22 million tonnes this year.

Turkey will diversify its oil sources. It won't be dependent upon a single source," Kececioglu told reporters.

Iraq is Turkey's biggest oil supplier with 63 per cent of total imports in 1989, followed by Libya with 9.9 per cent and Iran with 9.5 per cent.

Ankara and Baghdad have been at odds over the sharing of waters from the Euphrates river since Turkey diverted the waters for 30 days in January to fill a new dam.

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EC bids tough terms for EMU

Blueprint for integration

BRUSSELS, July 23. (Reuters): European Community nations must meet tough economic conditions before they proceed to more advanced stages of economic and monetary union (EMU), a new blueprint for integration says.

The report by the EC's influential Monetary Committee, a copy of which was given to Reuters, was being discussed by EC finance ministers in Brussels this afternoon.

It says that before advancing towards monetary union, all 12 countries should tie their currencies into a fixed rate in the European Monetary System (EMS) with a fluctuation margin of 2.25 per cent from that rate.

Britain, Greece and Portugal are not yet full members of the EMS while the Spanish peseta fluctuates within a wider band.

There should also be a narrowing of inflation rates and tough budget discipline before proceeding, the report says.

"If this transition were to be attempted on the basis of a lower degree of convergence than specified here, the effect would be to delay considerably the transition to the final stage," the 29-page document added.

US, EC agree to begin talks

Agricultural reform

GENEVA, (Agencies): The United States and European Community agreed Tuesday to begin substantive negotiations on agricultural reform—the key-area threatening the entire Uruguay Round of global trade liberalisation talks.

Accord on genuine farm trade bargaining was reached at the opening of a one-week review of the Uruguay Round, which began in 1986 and faces a deadline of December this year.

"The time for statements and posturing is past," a US statement said.

Together with other big agricultural producer and importer countries, the two farming superpowers also agreed that negotiations should cover all areas in the sector.

That was crucial, officials said, because of previous EC refusals to discuss any major cuts in its farm export subsidies. Washington links a Uruguay Round package to hefty reductions in the EC's annual \$34 billion farm export subsidies, saying that state assistance costs American farms \$11 billion a year in lost sales.

EC officials argue that the community's 11 million farmers actually receive less support per capita than the 2 million American farmers through \$8.4 billion in annual internal US farm support payments.

The two farming superpowers together with other big producer and importer countries agreed "that substantive negotiations will be initiated in the month of August," a statement said.

EC subsidies

Crunch to come

CHAGFORD, England, July 23. (Reuters): A blackface sheep grazes peacefully among the granite outcrops of Dartmoor as a storm of international proportions prepares to burst upon it.

Between its pasture, one of the last great wildernesses of southwest England, and a slab in a butcher's shop, taxpayers from 12 countries will have subsidised its existence.

The European Community nations believe such "socio-economic" payments are necessary to safeguard rural life.

But it has put them on collision course with the United States which is heading a campaign to end all "trade-distorting" farm subsidies.

The crunch could come at a crucial session starting in Geneva on Monday of the 105-nation Uruguay Round of negotiations to liberalise world trade being held under the auspices of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

The talks, named after the country where they were launched in 1986, are due to wind up in Brussels in December with accords to set the rules for world commerce into the next century.

GATT negotiators have said a successful outcome of the Uruguay Round is dependent on a deal over farm subsidies.

But could Britain's farmers survive without such payments?

"Absolutely not," said John Wells, who keeps around 40 cattle out on the high grazing grounds near the moorland town of Chagford, deep in the heart of the Dartmoor National Park.

"It's the only profit there is. Without the subsidy, we would barely

"(The Uruguay Round) group on agriculture also stated its understanding that all agricultural products are within the scope of the negotiations," it said.

Agreement to at least start real bargaining despite serious differences was welcomed by US deputy trade negotiator Julius Katz and agriculture department under-secretary Richard Crowder.

"We expect that all the participants will engage seriously in all areas of the agriculture negotiations," they said to a statement.

"It (now) remains to be seen whether this process will serve to unblock the differences that have stymied progress in the negotiations to date," they said. "A deadlock has been broken," said Arthur Dunkel, director general of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), the regulatory framework for 97 per cent of world commerce.

"Now I know that everyone is committed to start the negotiations in all areas," Dunkel said.

At the same time, however, he warned that deep differences continue between the main players on agriculture and in other major Uruguay Round sectors such as services like banking and insurance, and textiles and clothing.

Rows over farm trade reform, curbs on textile exports, commercial piracy and new rules for service industries confront delegates from 105 countries at international trade talks which resumed in Geneva yesterday.

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The report is the most authoritative guide to the analysis of EMU yet produced by the monetary committee, which groups top EC central bank and finance ministry experts.

For the first time, it analyses two important problems to achieving union—how to handle the transition to a common Central Bank and possibly a single currency, and what effect monetary union might have on the poorer countries of the EC.

It says a "two-speed" monetary union, giving some countries more time than others, cannot be ruled out.

Karl Otto Poehl, president of West Germany's Central Bank, the Bundesbank, has said.

Frauke, West Germany, Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg might go first.

"This group should be in a position to go forward...even if some other countries do not meet the criteria," the monetary committee report says.

Following are highlights of the report:

Foreign exchange policy. This has created the biggest split among members. The committee report clearly spells out two opposing views, without naming countries, on how to conduct foreign exchange policy after union.

It says one group, believed to be headed by West Germany, take the view that a future EC central bank system should be in charge of intervention in foreign exchange markets. The other group, which officials said includes Britain and France, say politicians must have the main responsibility for intervention.

The effect on poor countries. Most members reject the idea that a strongly anti-inflation EC monetary policy after union might harm the poorer nations.

The transition towards complete monetary union. The 12 countries have not yet agreed how or when to proceed to the second stage of the so-called Delors Plan, named after European Commission President Jacques Delors, for EMU.

Stage one—increasing economic co-operation within existing rules—began on July 1. Stage two is transitional phase during which a European central bank would be set up and stage three would achieve the goal of a single currency and single monetary policy in the EC.

The intermediate stage would be one of increased cooperation—but in which the final responsibility for monetary and economic policy would remain with the national authorities.

Now that farming is no longer as important as it used to be, it accounts for only three per cent of the total gross domestic product (GDP) of the European Community.

In Britain, agricultural workers make up less than three per cent of the total work force. Even in a farming area like Chagford, agricultural workers—al 36 per cent of the region's work force—have been displaced in numbers by the 38 per cent employed in finance, publishing and advertising.

Egyptians believe everything foreign is superior and like to boast, "I have a reservation on Swissair." Mubarak complained in a televised speech marking Egypt's 1952 revolution.

Citizens, fly with your company (EgyptAir)... This is the first time the airline will buy aircraft from its own revenue, said Mubarak, a former air force pilot.

He did not give details of the planes that would be bought. In May the carrier approved the purchase of five Boeing 737-500s and has nine ordered Airbus A300-600s.

Then there are the "market support" subsidies available to all farmers, not just those on hill farms.

Under this there is the "beef special premium scheme," wholly funded by the EC, where a payment of 31.80 pounds (\$57.61) is paid at slaughter of male cattle of at least nine months. There is a limit of 90 head per year per farmer.

"It's only profit there is. Without the subsidy, we would barely

IDB allocates \$11.02m for project financing

JEDDAH, July 23. (Opeca): The executive board of the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) ended its 116th meeting here at the weekend by allocating \$11.02 million for project financing in member states.

The board agreed to provide technical assistance to finance engineering designs for a road project linking Chad's border area with Sudan. A further \$822,000 was approved to help finance a 171 km road scheme in Chad.

Bush aide helped buy insolvent Oklahoma bank at fire sale price: report

NEW YORK, July 23. (UPI): Federal banking officials admitted they erred in allowing a businessman with a history of legal and regulatory problems to buy an insolvent Oklahoma Bank at a fire sale price with lobbying help from a former aide to President George Bush, a published report said yesterday.

The businessman, James Fail, 64, of Phoenix, paid \$500,000 for the bank that officials said could have fetched \$2 million to \$6 million, the New York Times reported.

Oklahoma deal is latest disclosure concerning Fail, who is under investigation by a Senate subcommittee studying how he acquired 15 insolvent Texas Savings and Loans using \$70 million in borrowed money and a personal investment of only \$1,000.

The Times reported previously undisclosed details of the deal with the now defunct Federal Home Loan Bank board showed that Fail and his lobbyist, Robert Thompson, received unusually swift and favourable treatment from another

regulatory agency, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

Thompson was a campaign aide to Bush in 1980 and served as legislative aide when Bush was president.

Federal officials were unaware of, or ignored, the objections of local regulators, who thought Fail's legal problems should disqualify him as a suitable buyer.

Fail was indicted in 1976 in Alabama on charges of securities fraud. The charges were dropped and Fail agreed not to co-

duct new business there. In the same case, his insurance company pleaded guilty to securities fraud, a felony.

Fail did not disclose his indictment but did mention the guilty plea by his company one day before the FDIC approved the sale. Fail did not submit the agency's background form which asks specifically if the applicant has ever been indicted.

Lance Morgan, a spokesman for Fail and Thompson, said Thompson arranged a January 1987 meeting between Fail and FDIC head, L. William Siedman.

Tapie unashamedly ambitious

Aims high in business, sports, politics

pattern with Adidas, which is locked in a battle with Nike for the title of world's No. 1 sporting goods maker.

The \$29-million acquisition following nine months of secret negotiations, but Tapie made sure the news was spread when the secret ended. He announced the purchase in Rome, on the eve of the World Cup soccer championship, to scores of reporters gathered from around the world.

It was one of the biggest purchases ever of a West German firm by a Frenchman, and earned nationalistic praise for Tapie even from commentators sceptical about his financial base. Last Monday, Tapie silenced some of the doubters by listing eight major banks as his backers—four from France, two from West Germany, two from Japan.

An Adidas subsidiary, the Swiss-based firm ISL, serves as marketing consultant for international soccer's governing body, and Tapie has stated openly that he hopes his acquisition will help ensure France's selection as host of the 1998 World Cup.

Although it lost money last year, Adidas remains one of the best-known brand names in the world, with products sold in 160 countries. It has 10,000 employees, and its sales and licensing revenues last year totalled about \$2.8 billion.

It dwarfs the total size of Tapie's industrial empire in France—a constantly changing assortment of companies involved in such products as weighing machines and health foods.

One of his most prized possessions is Olympique Marseille, a soccer team that was floundering before Tapie began spending millions on world-class players. This year, the team reached the semifinals of the European Cup, which determines the continent's best pro team.

He previously sponsored teams in the Tour de France, and was the executive force behind Greg LeMond in 1986 when he became the first American to win the world's premier bicycle race.

A yachtsman and pilot, Tapie describes sports as one of his three passions, along with business and politics.

Business briefs

Rahman bank reports profit: The National Bank of Bahrain reports its net income after provisions for the period ended 30 June 1990 is BD5.4 million (US\$14.4 million) compared with BD4.8 million (US\$12.8 million) as of June 30, 1989. This increase of 12.5 per cent in net income after provisions was mainly due to lower level of provisions required by the bank. Total provision for the first half of 1990 amounted to BD1.9 million (US\$5.6 million) compared with BD2.2 million (US\$6.6 million) for the same period of 1989. The provisions made during the first half of 1990 were entirely of a general nature.

Statement of condition for Yemen: Yemen signed a protocol with France on Sunday for a \$21 million loan for financing communications and electricity projects.

Yemen will have to repay the loan within 20 years. The loan attracts one per cent interest per annum after a 10-year grace period.

The Yemeni Republic was declared on May 22 after a merger between formerly Marxist ruled South and the Western oriented North Yemen. (Reuter)

De Beers to halt digging: De Beers Consolidated Mines Ltd said it would end underground production this year at the 120-year-old mine in Kimberley which started the northern Cape province town's diamond boom.

The company, which controls four-fifths of the world's rough diamond market through its London-based Central Selling Organisation, said the De Beers mine in Kimberley, which employs 150 workers, had reached the end of its economic life.

But the end of underground production would not mean the mine's immediate closure, De Beers said. (Reuter)

US corporations unprepared: American corporations are unprepared for the workforce of the future, according to a news study released in Washington Friday.

The challenges American firms are facing include a severe shortage of young, entry-level workers, a lack of skilled workers, an increase in the number of minorities, immigrants and women and the "graying" of the workforce, the study says.

The study, prepared by the Hudson Institute and presented to a congressional committee, is entitled, "Workforce 2000: Competing in a seller's market." (Kuna)

Greek deficits remain high: Greece's huge state deficits will not be cut this year, keeping interest rates high and thwarting efforts to modernise the battered economy, Central Bank governor Dimitris Halikas said in an interview on Sunday.

"The biggest obstacle to modernisation is the huge public sector deficits," he told the independent Sunday newspaper Vima.

"As long as the deficits remain at their present levels, and unfortunately they won't be reduced in 1990, interest rates will remain high for companies," he said. (Reuter)

China's imports drop drastically: China's crackdown on the pro-democracy movement and an austerity plan has caused imports to drop sharply this year over last, a government official said Monday.

Imports for the first half of 1990 dropped by almost one-fourth compared to the same period last year, said the official, Liu Xiaoming.

China's exports, meanwhile, jumped 21.7 per cent over the first half of 1989, totalling \$24.5 billion. Liu, spokesman for the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade, said at a news conference.

June's export volume of \$3.2 billion was China's highest in a single month, according to statistics handed out at the briefing. (AP)

Australian tourism booms: The number of international visitors to Australia in April this year was up thirteen per cent over April 1989, according to figures just released by the Australian Bureau of Statistics.

<p

VARIETY

Cinema

Stacy Keach returns to jail

MIKE HAMMER actor Stacy Keach is going back to jail... but just for make-believe. Stacy, who served six months for smuggling cocaine into Britain, is playing a real-life convict in his latest movie.

Ex-private eye Hammer told me from his home in Malibu: "I have to admit the time I spent in prison helped a lot with my role in the film, *False Identity*.

"I don't want to talk about when I served my sentence. It is just too painful. It was a very traumatic time."

"But I don't bear a grudge towards England. In fact, if I were offered a part there tomorrow, I would go like a shot. Unfortunately, I have tried to act there and, because of my conviction, I have been refused a work permit."

"I can come and go as I like, apparently, so long as I am not working as an actor. I look forward to the time when I can come back to British soil although, the way things are, I have no immediate plans to do so."

Since 48-year-old Keach was released from the slammer, his attitude to life has changed a lot. He now lectures throughout the United States on drug abuse. And he has become a doting and protective father.

Stacy has had son Shannon, aged two, by the girl who was his faithful prison visitor Malgosia Tomassi, now his fourth wife. He seeks to protect the boy from the stresses and strains of show-business that set him on the path to jail.

He said: "It would make Dad very proud if Shannon would



In *False Identity*, Stacy Keach haars echoes from his own past as the character he plays, Ban Driscoll, serves time in prison. Above: Ben confronts the baddie Marshall Erickson (Tobin Bell).



Ben and sexy reporter Rachel Catton (Genevieve Bujold) work together to discover a town's dark secrets.

become a scientist. Anything is more secure than acting. I would worry about him going through the rejection people suffer in my profession.

"Shannon has changed my

outlook on life. My priorities are different now. I have become much more conscious of my responsibilities. But it is a very positive thing. It's a good feeling to have somebody dependent on you."

Stacy wed ex-model Malgosia soon after he was released from jail. Even though he was married to Jill Donahue when he was sentenced. He said fondly: "Malgosia was my rock."

"She was the most important factor in my getting through the whole experience."

He went on: "Although I have been married four times, Shannon is my first child. When I was younger, I didn't want to have children. It was a responsibility I didn't need."

"I was much too selfish and wrapped up in my career to bother with it. I felt a child would have been a hindrance to me. It wasn't until I reached my forties that I changed my mind."

"Right now, Malgosia and I are talking about having another child. Shannon is wonderful, I

love him dearly. Although, at the moment, he's going through the terrible twos with a vengeance."

"He's experimenting with all the boundaries of what he can and cannot do. And he says, 'Not a lot.'

Stacy blames the pressure of getting the first *Mike Hammer* show on TV for his cocaine problem. He was working 17 hours, six days a week in order to produce the show on time.

He said: "My association with drugs was for medical purposes. I was never a social user; it was something I did privately, not on the film set. Now I'm into physical fitness and spending time with my family."

Stacy works to teach youngsters the evils of drugs. He said: "What happened to me helped the entertainment industry. Many in the business saw that lives could be destroyed by drugs."

"Frankly, it's no longer hip to be stoned or on drugs. Hollywood is no longer Temptation Capital, USA."

'We have met the enemy; he is us'

By Robert C. Cowen

WHEN it comes to our planet's ecological future, the lovable old cartoon character Foggy said it all: "We have met the enemy, and he is us."

The "critical thing" is the destruction of Earth's life-support systems is the impact of human population, says Stanford University human ecologist Paul Ehrlich. Unprecedented overpopulation and its continuing growth "are major factors in problems as diverse as global warming, African famines, acid rain, the threat of nuclear war, the garbage crisis, and the danger of epidemics," he explains.

Professor Emeritus Nathan Keyfitz, a Harvard University sociologist, has noted that some economists have taken to "viewing population as the ultimate resource and science as infinitely and immediately able to supply technological solutions." He calls that view "the result of a narrow disciplinary perspective that treats economics in isolation from its real-world setting."

Concerned ecologists such as Drs Ehrlich and Keyfitz warn that we are depleting the capital resources on which human life depends. Especially in the poorest areas "the scissors effect" of poverty and increasing population is slicing away at their ability to sustain human life," says Nafis Sadik, executive director of the United Nations Population Fund. Dr Sadik points up her concern with a few startling numbers. Tropical forests shrink by 27 million acres a year. Some 26 billion tons of topsoil slip away annually. New deserts appear at a rate of about 15 million acres a year. Tropical developing countries have seen roughly 400 million acres of upland watershed "grossly degraded" over the last three decades.

In addition, users in many areas are consuming groundwater faster than nature replaces it. Also, something like half the world's croplands are troubled with waterlogging and salt buildup. In fact, Sadik says, reviewing the situation in the United Nations magazine *Update*, "the amount of land available for agriculture may be shrinking even as numbers and needs grow."

In industrially advanced regions, relatively fewer people make relatively larger demands on resources. "The birth of a baby in the United States, given our lifestyle support system, is 100 times the ecological disaster that the birth of a baby in Bangladesh represents," says Ehrlich to dramatize this point.

It's hard to quantify population impact. Ehrlich suggests looking at rates of energy use. Sadik notes

that "The industrialised countries contain less than 25 per cent of the world's population, yet they consume 75 per cent of the energy used, 79 per cent of all commercial fuels, 85 per cent of all wood products, and 72 per cent of all steel production."

This does not mean that massive overpopulation and its growth in many developing countries is any kinder to the planet. Keyfitz has observed that "it's possible to debate this issue (of fertility versus sheer numbers) endlessly."

In his institute's publication *Options* he explains: "What we call traditional good farming or good forestry practices is maintaining the land in such condition that it will keep production indefinitely.... But tradition is not everywhere a protection: The loggers of Nepal, like the cattle-raisers of the Sahel, have improvident traditions. They do not seem about to change their practices; indeed, they are too poor to risk any change at all — and the more of them there are, the more quickly they destroy their resource base." He sums up by saying, "The least one can say is that every aspect of the problem (of human impact) is eased by having fewer rather than more people."

As things stand now, having fewer people is not the direction of global trends. The current growth rate is about a billion people every 11 years, mostly in developing nations. That's an extra 94 million a year — roughly the population of Britain, Ireland, Iceland, Belgium, Denmark, Norway, Sweden and Finland combined.

There is a consensus among the ecologists that such a trend can't go on. If it is not dealt with rationally, through birth control, they warn that nature — famines, pestilence, plague, war — will adjust things brutally. Writing in the recent US National Academy of Sciences publication *Global Change and Our Common Future*, former Environmental Protection Agency administrator William Ruckelshaus observes that nature will go on even if it means dispensing with the human species. "Attractive animals and even particular ecosystems may be vulnerable, but nature herself is not.... We are talking about a self-regulating system the size of a planet 3 billion years old," he notes.

What the experts seem to be saying is that it is time to face the much-discussed issues of population control squarely because they are central to humanity's future. As Ehrlich notes, this will not be easy because these issues are viewed in a variety of cultural, ethnic, national and religious perspectives. This is why they have been peripheral to the concern about the environment.

La Valley's 'Botanic Ark'

Changing Australia

David Clark Scott

WARRAGUL, Australia (CMS): Steve La Valley won't win any marketing prizes. On a country road about 60 miles east of Melbourne, bisected "Botanic Ark" sign has seen too many days of searing Australian sun. La Valley greets visitors with the frank admission that his ramshackle, scrap-lumber-strewn estate does look more like a dump than a garden nursery.

But this shaggy-bearded "Noah," with a master's degree in natural science, is far more interested in results than appearances.

"I don't know that you can solve the world's problems. But I've already changed Australia in a thousand ways — well, 10,000 ways — by just doing this little thing I do here," he says in a soft voice still faced with an American accent.

La Valley has lived in Australia for 16 years. Since 1981, he's been propagating and selling unusual plants from all over the world. Spurred by ongoing environmental degradation and fear of nuclear holocaust, he aims to bolster the biodiversity of the Australia landscape.

Socrates said, "An unexamined life is not worth living. I've thought about how you make environments diverse, as opposed to simplifying them, which is what man is doing everywhere," says La Valley. "I'm trying to reverse the current destruction of genetic variability."

His five-acre-square organic nursery is packed with hundreds of young trees, shrubs, and seedlings. The emphasis is on slow-growing varieties ignored by commercial farms.

Most are rare — particularly in Australia and "useful." That is, edible varieties and those used in making such things as candles, perfumes, paper, dyes, sugar, cordage, spices, and silk.

An orchard tour is part botanical seminar, part philosophical homily: "This Brazilian cherry guava will cover the ground in edible fruit 10 inches deep. This North American Osage Orange was used by the Osage Indians; it's one of the finest bow woods on the planet..." Thomas Jefferson said something like, "one of the best things you can possibly do for any place, is introduce just one kind of useful plant to it..." ... This is a New South Wales Sassafras; they used it for mosquito repellent in World War II, until it was replaced by DDT... This Plum Pine is found in Australian rainforests... Cooked, it makes a fine jam. Uncooked, it's chicken food..."

La Valley says his customers are often like-minded "strange people living in funny little river valleys in the mountains and hinterlands of Australia. People who don't want to eat 'poisoned' (that is, chemically-treated) fruits, living as natural a life style as possible."

Soured on American values in the wake of Vietnam and Watergate, La Valley came to Australia in 1974 to teach. He stayed on after his two-year contract lapsed. A few years were spent living in a farmhouse, and in a commune, gathering some hands-on horticultural experience. "Although I have a master's, majored in botany, I was never required to grow or care for plants," he remarks. Then he and Rohyn, also a teacher and his partner for 15 years, started the Botanic Ark on a derelict farm.

La Valley says his customers are often like-minded "strange people living in funny little river valleys in the mountains and hinterlands of Australia. People who don't want to eat 'poisoned' (that is, chemically-treated) fruits, living as natural a life style as possible."

Some plants in the "ark" are grown from seeds bought overseas. Most are the result of scavenging the countryside for rare, acclimated species. "I never take the main roads. I search for old home sites, old railway stations, shire halls, cemeteries. Wherever humans gather, they usually plant trees."

La Valley's actions are criticized by some Australian naturalists. For the last decade, there's been a move to propagate indigenous plants, to restore the Australian landscape to its pre-European-settlers condition. "Saving things Australian is an excellent idea. I work toward that," he says. "But the whole planet is endangered." He argues that plants from other continents will also be necessary to support the population in the event of a catastrophe.

How does La Valley justify his "ark" when there are already botanic gardens in cities around the world, and universities preserving genetic material from plants in huge vaults?

"There's no way I would measure up what I'm doing here as being more significant," he says. But, he argues, a nuclear war is more likely to decimate the gardens and vaults near major cities than his humble plantation.

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Steve La Valley, a natural scientist, poses with a South African fan.

FAMILY DOCTOR By DR ALLAN BRUCKHEIM

ALL POSSIBLE CAUSES OF STERILITY SHOULD BE EXAMINED

QUESTION: Could you please be so kind as to explain male sterility due to mumps contracted during puberty? I have been married six years and I haven't been able to get pregnant. How does this illness affect the male's reproductive system, and is there any cure for it?

ANSWER: Mumps is a disease that is found world-wide, and blood tests show that by age 15 more than 90 per cent of people living in urban areas have been exposed to the disease. It most often occurs in children 5 to 9 years old, but those statistics are changing due to a mumps vaccine that was first available for use in 1967.

The cause of the infection is a virus that is passed through contact with secretions from an infected individual's nose, mouth and throat. About one-third of the time the disease proceeds with no symptoms at all, except for a slight fever and malaise. However, the most noticeable feature of the full-blown attack is swelling of the parotid gland located in the cheek, as well as other salivary glands. It may also affect the testicles of men past puberty in from 10 to 20 per cent of the cases. It then is called "orchitis" or inflammation of the testicles.

It may touch one or both sides, and according to some articles in the literature, rarely may affect sterility, or, according to other experts, produce sterility in as many as half the cases. The viral infection attacks the sperm-producing cells and destroy them, leaving the testicle atrophied or shrunken. Fortunately the cells that produce the masculine hormone are not affected, and so levels of male hormone remain normal throughout life.

Once the damage has been done, there is no treatment available to regenerate the sperm-producing cells. When the problem is sterility, a complete work-up must be performed to determine the number and activity of sperm that may be present, and to evaluate the potential for fertilisation. If the findings indicate that this might occur, you also must be examined for possible causes of infertility, which should then be treated and corrected as well.

Although a history of mumps is important in fertility problems, it must not be considered the culprit until all the possibilities have been examined.

Medical News

Sexing embryos

A RESEARCH team at London's Hammersmith Hospital has discovered how to identify the sex of a test-tube baby before the embryo is transferred to the mother.

This advance opens the way to screening for 20 genetic disorders, including haemophilia and Duchenne muscular dystrophy, which affect only male children. Surgeons will now be able to ensure that only female test-tube babies are transferred to a mother at risk of passing on such an inherited disorder.

Until now, genetic assessment of embryos had been carried out after the embryo has been implanted in the wall of the mother's uterus. By sampling the amniotic fluid or examining embryonic cells in the placenta in a process that can be done from the eighth week of pregnancy.

But the Hammersmith team has managed to determine the sex of a woman's embryos only three days after the eggs have been fertilised with her husband's sperm in the test-tube. At this stage, the embryo consists of a ball of six or eight cells and is only a tenth of a millimetre across.

A single cell is removed from each embryo and is amplified a million-fold in a process called polymerase chain reaction that enables the sex of the embryo to be identified within a few hours.

Prof. Robert Winston, who is leading the research, says three women who are carriers of serious diseases, are now pregnant in the knowledge that their babies will be free of the inherited defects that have marred their previous pregnancies.

Prof. Robert Winston, Royal Postgraduate Medical School, Hammersmith Hospital, 150 Du Cane Road, London W12 OHS; telephone 44-81-743 2030.

Author shatters Richard Byrd image

Beyond the Barrier,
by Eugene Rodgers
(Naval Institute Press, 354 pp., \$24.95)

ADM. Richard E. Byrd is pictured by most historians as a skilled pilot, navigator, explorer and indomitable expedition leader, who fearlessly explored the Antarctic and became the first pilot to fly over the South Pole.

In this book, Eugene Rodgers shows us a different Byrd — an inept pilot, poor navigator, an unsteady leader with a fear of mutiny, and at times a heavy drinker with a light regard for the truth.

Rodgers says his access to Byrd's private papers, recently made available at Ohio State University, to a large extent made it possible for him to give what he calls the first objective account of Byrd's 1928 expedition, which featured the first polar flight and discoveries of vast Antarctic territories.

In no way does Rodgers diminish the successes of Byrd's work, but his account of the man himself, and how it differs from the Byrd stereotype, dominates the book.

According to Rodgers, formerly with the US Antarctic Research

Programme, Byrd's saintly image has been protected for years by his relatives and admirers, some of whom refused to be interviewed for this book.

No matter what Byrd's personal shortcomings might have been, Rodgers concludes he was a showman who captured the American imagination and persuaded many tycoons to finance his ambitions. As Rodgers notes, he was a "superb organizer and planner" who overcame adversity and "accomplished almost all his goals."

Blossom, by Andrew Vachas (Knopf, 255 pp., \$17.95)

A novel by Andrew Vachas is not the kind of thing you turn to if you're looking for few hours of pleasant escape. A book by Vachas more often than not leaves you feeling that you've just taken a dirt bath.

But that's exactly what makes Vachas' books such a fascinating read. An attorney specialising in juvenile justice and child abuse, Vachas shows a great familiarity with his subjects in these tales of Burke, a man with a working knowledge of the seamy side of Manhattan who uses that knowledge in investigations.

"Blossom" is actually less grim and violent than Vachas' earlier "Blue Belle" or "Flood." It takes Burke out of New York city to an Indiana town just miles from Chicago, to find the sniper who is getting his kicks out of randomly killing people on a lover's lane.

"Blossom" again features a female character of a type not normally seen in detective stories, women much like Burke — very tough but with a tender side. The tale is told in short, punchy chapters that move the plot along, and although Burke's more unusual friends play only a marginal role this time, his own insight and instincts are hard at work.

One of the

Dear Junior readers,
Being at a curious age, I'm sure many of you are fond of playing with the electrical machines around the house. The kitchen may seem to be a heaven for some of you with all its applian-

ces. The toaster, the mincer, the beater, the juice maker, the microwave... many gadgets to play with. An extra special place if you are playing mummies and daddies and you are to cook something for your guests or children or husbands!

Most probably, mummy keeps telling you not to play around in the kitchen, especially with the electronics. Have you wondered why? Well, using these appliances without close supervision, no matter how confident you are, is very, very dan-

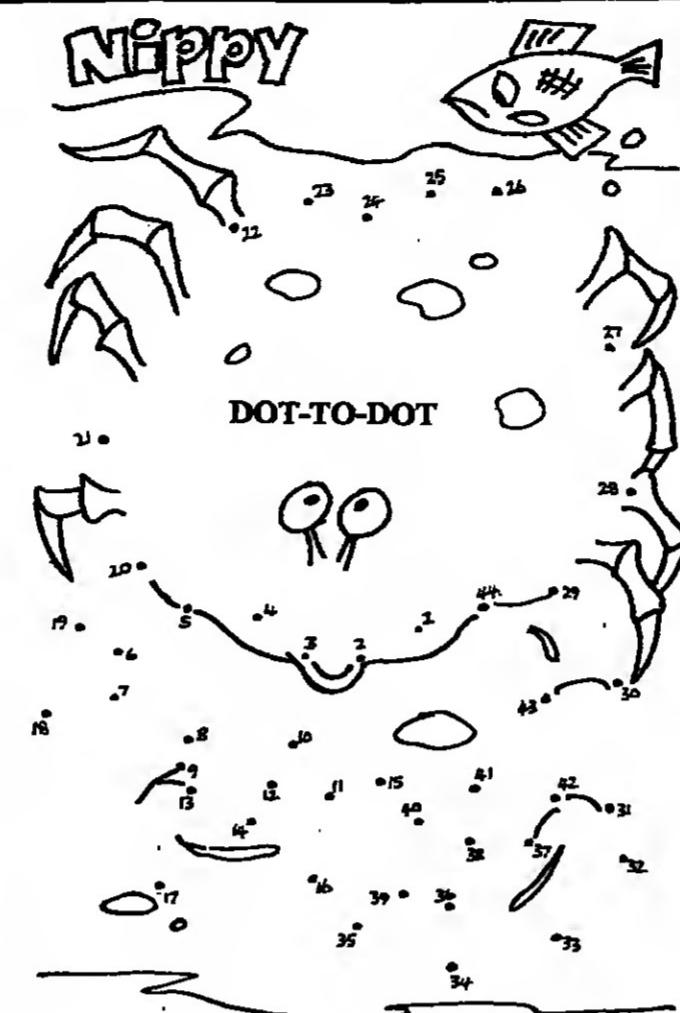
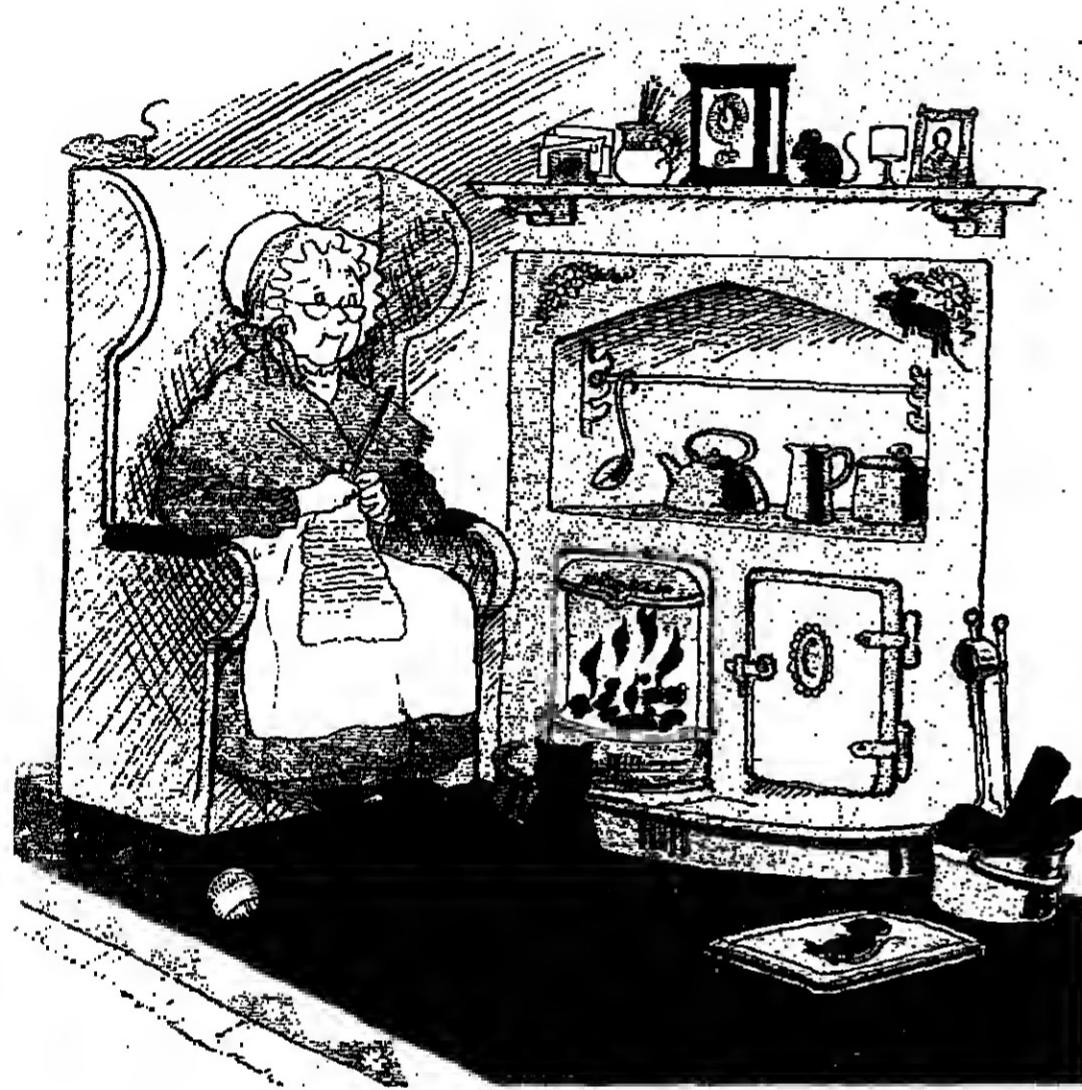
gerous. The least of the nasty accidents that may happen is that your fingers may get caught in one machine or another and get seriously damaged. Be careful.

Moral:

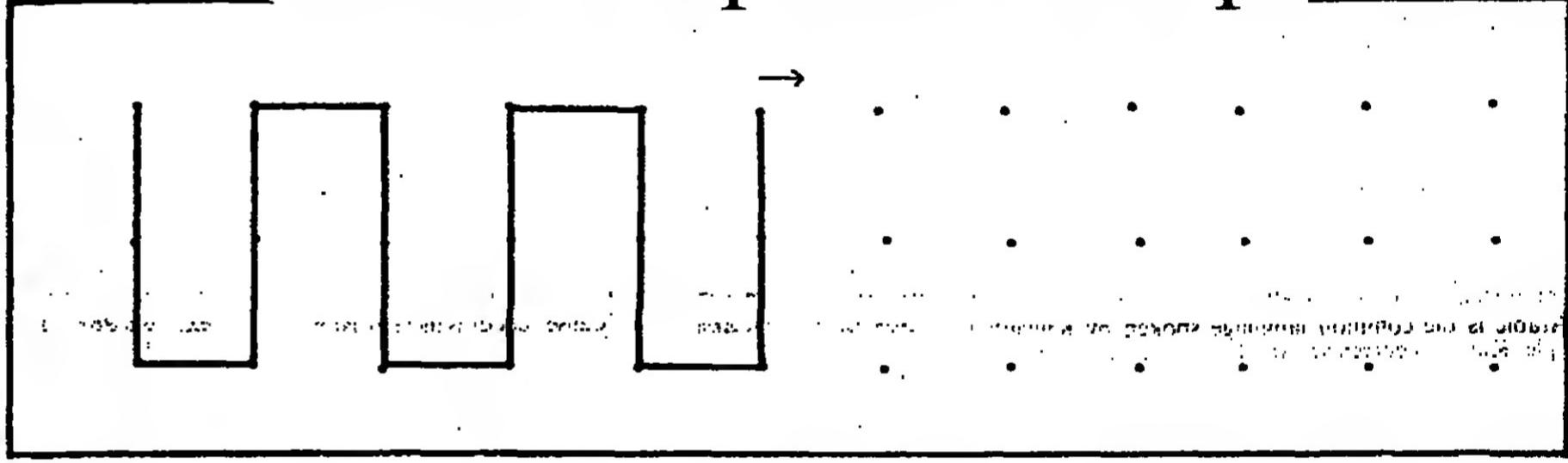
Rhyme time

Dame Trot and her cat
Sat down for a chat;
The Dame sat on this side,
And Puss sat on that.
"Puss," says the Dame,
"Can you catch a rat,
Or a mouse in the dark?"
"Purr," says the cat.

Six mice are hiding in the room. Can you find them?

**Baby of the week**

One year old Ahmed Maher Al Zayyat enjoys playing, walking and eating. His favourite toys are his big cuddly panda and noisy police car.

Draw: complete the shape

This is a y.
Here are some pictures of words that begin with y. Point to each picture. Say the words. Color the pictures. Trace the letter y with a pencil. Practice making the letter.



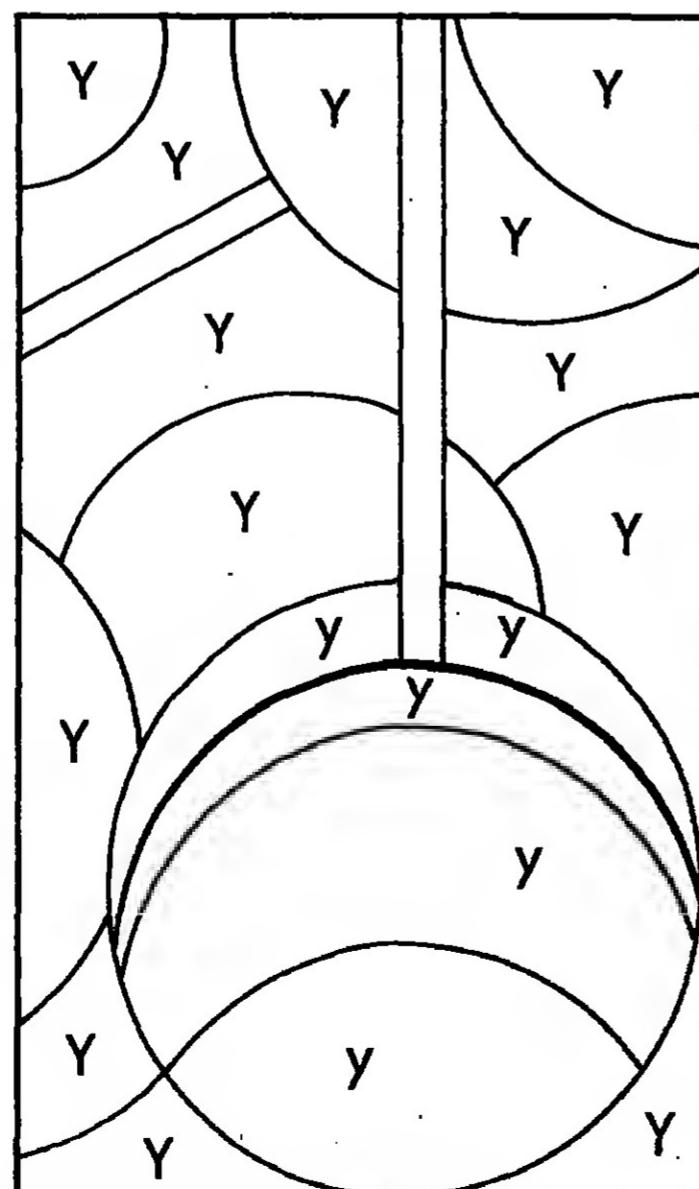
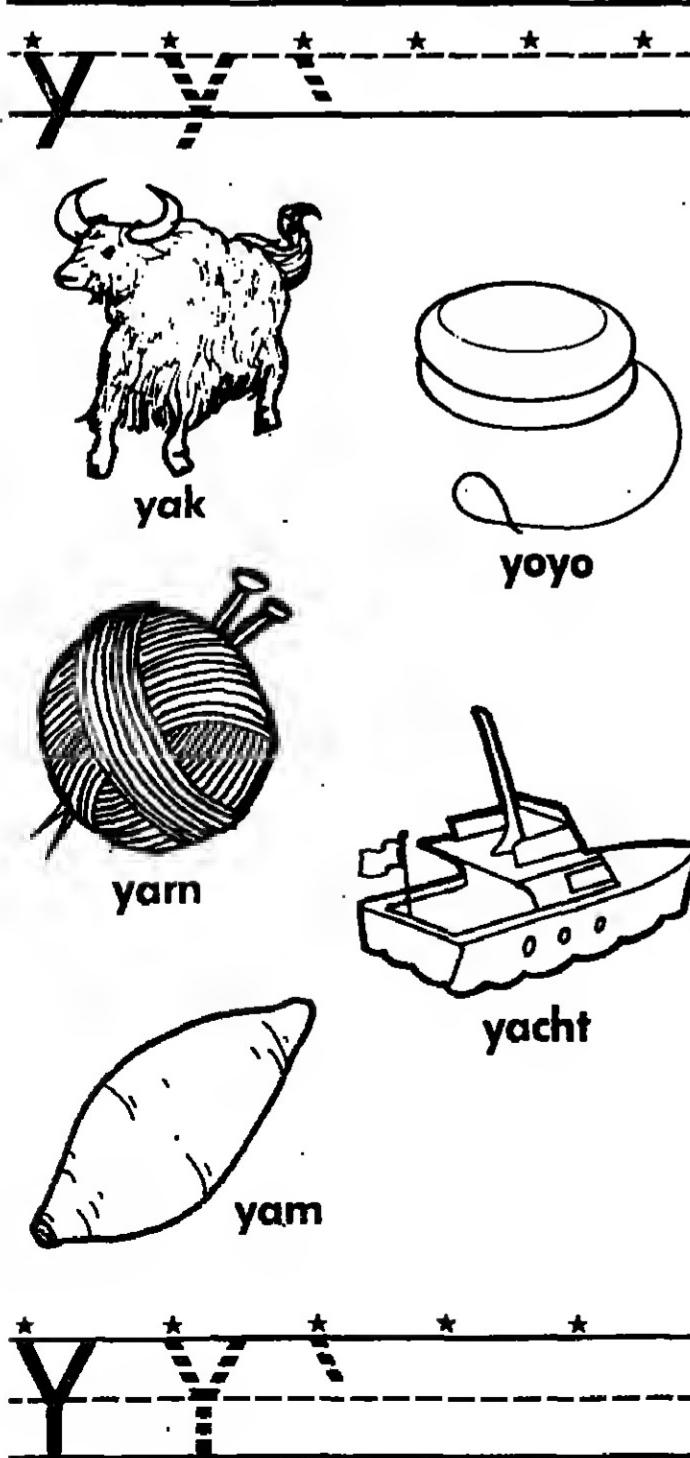
Color the y spaces one color. Color the spaces with the capital Y's another color. What do you see that begins with y?

Amazing facts

Court ladies in fourteenth-century France used to wear their corsets as outer garments.

Over half of all the known types of flowers in the world grow in South Africa.

The Japanese railway system is the busiest in the world and professional "pushers" are employed to push in passengers before the doors can be closed.

**The Deer & His Antlers**

A deer came to drink at a spring and saw his reflection in the water. He admired his beautiful wide antlers, but he thought his legs looked skinny and weak. Just then some hunters approached, and he dashed away. His swift legs, which he thought were ugly, saved his life—until his beautiful wide antlers got caught in some branches and he was captured.

Moral: People often don't know their own strengths and weaknesses.



Kuwait

KUWAIT is a small country which is located in the Arab world and lies on the continent of Asia. It is a member of the Gulf Co-operation Council.

Arabic is the common language spoken by Kuwaiti people. Kuwait's currencies are dinars and fils. Kuwait's national flag consists of four colours which are black, white, red and green. Her climate is always very hot. In winter, there is sometimes a little bit of rainfall and chills.

Kuwait is a major producer of oil, a mineral resource. There are two big oil companies in Kuwait: Kuwait National Petroleum Company and Kuwait Oil Company. Before the discovery of oil, there were three main occupations in Kuwait: fishing, pearl diving and ship building.

Due to modern technology, many countries including Kuwait, can grow fruit and vegetables. Such growth takes place under controlled temperatures, irrigated soil and added nutrients. Some of the fruit and vegetables grown in Kuwait are: cucumbers, tomatoes, brinjal, raddish, potatoes, dates, cabbage, cauliflower, carrots, water-melon, green pepper, and lady fingers (okra).



Kuwait has lots of interesting places to visit such as the Entertainment City, the Green Island, fair and the sea front.

The Kuwaiti people are very nice and sincere. They are very kind indeed. There are a lot of expatriate families living in Kuwait and I belong to one of them. Kuwait is a very hospitable country with all modern amenities for a decent living. I pray to almighty Allah for continual happiness, progress and prosperity for this beloved country.

Emily Hussain (Dolamom),
Kuwait English School,
Senior 1.

If only I was....



If only I was a bird,
I could fly high with
beautiful wings,
and I would have stayed,
in a nest made of wool and
strings.

Or if I was the deep, blue
sea,
everyday people would
visit me,
to have fun and swim,
and go home as tanned as
can be.

Anyway, I'm a human
being,
a superior creature as goes
the saying,
I can read and write and
talk in words,
And skip and jump and
thank the Lord.

Farinaz Simika,
Carmel School.

The Night

Tonight everything is calm,
I can enjoy the silence,
'Cause no body is there to harm,
For there is no violence.

I can bear the breeze in the air,
As I stand still on the ground,
It blows through my hair,
I love what I've found.

As I look to the skies,
I lose my way,
Tonight nothing is at disguise,
As through the heavens I stray.

As I close my eyes,
I can bear the river and the breeze,
There's a certain music if you hear,
as well as you see,
There we can find our peace of mind.

I remember my childhood in a phase.
Sweet memories come before,
A smile comes on my face,
For the remembrance come thy forth

In night I find tranquility,
Without any care,
Wish this was for eternity,
For no burden to bear.

Soon the night will be over,
Another day will boom.
Where I will have a new world to discover.
But I will await another night.



Faiza Mufti
15 years old

Colouring time



FOR THE BIRDS

This puzzle is indeed for the birds — or at least for the bird lovers among us. Once again, though, you'll find some here that wouldn't take too kindly to a cage or sparrow feeder!

AVIARY	CATBIRD	EGRET	MOCKINGBIRD	STORK
ALBATROSS	CHICKEN	FEATHER	NEST	SWALLOW
BIRDBATH	COCKATIEL	FALCON	OWL	SWAN
BIRDHOUSE	CONDOR	FINCH	PARROT	TURKEY
BIRDSEED	CROW	GOOSE	PEACOCK	WOODPECKER
BLUEJAY	DODO	GUINEA HEN	PERCH	WORM
CANARY	DOVE	HAWK	ROBIN	
CAPON	DUCK	KIWI	ROOKERY	
CARDINAL	EAGLE	LARK	ROOSTER	

REKCEPDOOWORMKA
CARDINALRODNOCV
ANEKCIHCOLKLTI
TOTORRAPOLIESDA
DPSWOTREKAWIESR
RAOLBDEREWITNSY
ICOIOWHCRSUAEOE
BIRDBATHYTFKHRS
GDOCANARYAWCATU
NKCOCAEPLAKOEA
IEHCNIFCHNCNBH
KGOOSEOLARKEILD
CROBINAWORCVUAR
OELGAESTORKOGLI
MTURKEYDEESDRIB

Sets of
means
X

Did you know

Tartan sounds and is very Scottish, but it was invented in China in a region called Tartary.

The first roadside petrol pump set up in Britain was in Newbury, Berkshire in 1920.

Sovereigns and half sovereigns were last in use in 1914 when they were replaced by treasury notes.

The word 'Right on', used so much today, are not very new. They appear for the first time in the play Julius Caesar written by William Shakespeare.

Geronimo, the great Apache Indian chief who struck fear in the hearts of the settlers in America's southwest in the 1880s, spent the last years of his life selling photographs of himself on the streets.

Only seven of the plays written by the world's first known playwright, Aeschylus, have survived to the present day.

Charles Dickens first wrote his novels in serial form.

The first hammocks, in which sailors later slept on board ships, were used on land by Indians living in the Caribbean.

Proverb: 'He that will thrive must first ask his wife.' We also say that behind every great man there is a great woman.

If you look at a copy of the Encyclopedia Britannica published in recent years you will see that it consists of upwards of twenty volumes. However, there were just three volumes in the first edition published in 1768.

Happy birthday



Stephanie Boustani turned 5 on July 14



Randall George turned 4 on July 22



Roben Jacob turned 5 on July 21



Almas Thange turned 1 on July 23



Basma Parkar turns 6 today, July 24



Reema Riaz turned 1 on July 18



Wasmia Parkar turns 6 today, July 24



Virali Patel on July 23

Count on in 5s to 100

0 → → → → → →
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 → → → → → →

Complete the table of 5s.

$1 \times 5 =$ <input type="text"/>	$6 \times 5 =$ <input type="text"/>
$2 \times 5 =$ <input type="text"/>	$7 \times 5 =$ <input type="text"/>
$3 \times 5 =$ <input type="text"/>	$8 \times 5 =$ <input type="text"/>
$4 \times 5 =$ <input type="text"/>	$9 \times 5 =$ <input type="text"/>
$5 \times 5 =$ <input type="text"/>	$10 \times 5 =$ <input type="text"/>

Sets of
means
X

LEISURE

ARAB TIMES, TUESDAY, JULY 24, 1990

BLONNIE — By Daryl Cagle



THE CARTOONIST



AGATHA CRUMM



HERBIE HAWLER



THE MUNSTERS



ANDY CAPP



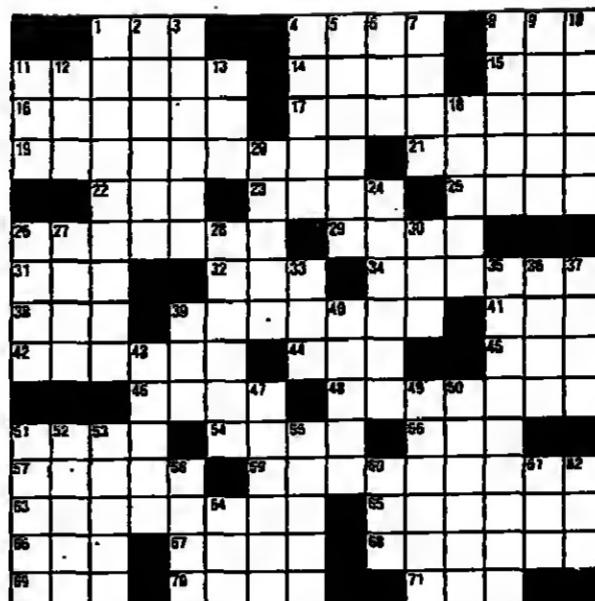
B.C. — By Johnny Hart



HE-MAN — By G. Foster & J. Shull



TODAY'S CROSSWORD



ACROSS

- 1 "good deed..."
- 4 Something posted
- 8 Gained a lap
- 11 Highlander's children
- 14 Chorus voice
- 15 — de la Cite, Paris
- 16 Lorraine's partner
- 17 Present canyon?
- 18 Present fee?
- 21 Yam coil
- 22 Arafat's org.
- 23 Wine lover's praf.
- 25 Griffith or Williams
- 26 Prayers, in Paris
- 29 Onetime job of ODE
- 31 Poet's preposition
- 32 Meadow
- 34 Left out
- 38 New Haven VIP
- 39 Present cash cache?
- 41 Choler
- 42 Like the Olympian gods
- 44 WW II abbr.
- 45 Go wrong
- 46 Not a copy: Abbr.
- 48 Raids
- 51 Jai —
- 54 Turnpike charge
- 56 Numero —
- 57 Charlotte —
- 59 Present sum?
- 63 Present lock?
- 65 Sirens
- 66 Chemical suffix
- 67 Kind of point
- 69 Prepare flax
- 70 Landers and Miller
- 71 Ending for Canton
- 73 Consumed
- 75 Present path?
- 76 Bruhn of ballet fame
- 37 Lair
- 39 Hollywood VIP
- 40 Certain type faces: Abbr.
- 43 Lifting apparatus
- 47 Baptismal sponsor's charge
- 49 Armor plate section
- 50 Broadway backers
- 51 Passion
- 52 Rainer of "The Good Earth"
- 53 In-the-black item
- 55 Shopper's helpers
- 58 Humorist Bombeck
- 60 Govt. org.
- 61 Map abbr.
- 62 Superlative ending
- 64 Long time

DOWN

- 1 Present ghost?
- 2 Delphi shrine
- 3 Television personality
- 4 Sheriff's star
- 5 Visitors from space
- 6 Capra's — A Wonderful Life
- 7 Fireplace fuel
- 8 Vamp
- 10 Minute
- 11 Spoiled
- 12 Clay, later
- 13 The Red or The Black
- 18 Giraffe's cousin
- 20 American Beauties
- 24 Spotted cat
- 26 Kilmer creation
- 27 Depend
- 28 Draw forth
- 30 Everyone
- 31 Choler
- 32 Meadow
- 33 Left out
- 34 New Haven VIP
- 35 Present cash cache?
- 36 Bruhn of ballet fame
- 37 Lair
- 38 Hollywood VIP
- 39 Present path?
- 40 Certain type faces: Abbr.
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- 52 Rainer of "The Good Earth"
- 53 In-the-black item
- 54 Turnpike charge
- 55 Shopper's helpers
- 56 Numero —
- 57 Charlotte —
- 58 Humorist Bombeck
- 59 Present sum?
- 60 Govt. org.
- 61 Map abbr.
- 62 Superlative ending
- 63 Present lock?
- 64 Long time

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

A	S	A	P	B	O	L	T	W	E	R	A	M	O	R	A	X	I	L	E	S	C	A	N	U	D	N	O	R	Y	U	N	D	S	Y	L	E	T	A	L	L	S	T	R	O	P	E	R	A	M	O	R	A	X	I	L	E	S	C	A	N	U	D	N	O	R	Y	U	N	D	S	Y	L	E	T	A	L	L	S	T	R	O	P	E	R	A	M	O	R	A	X	I	L	E	S	C	A	N	U	D	N	O	R	Y	U	N	D	S	Y	L	E	T	A	L	L	S	T	R	O	P	E	R	A	M	O	R	A	X	I	L	E	S	C	A	N	U	D	N	O	R	Y	U	N	D	S	Y	L	E	T	A	L	L	S	T	R	O	P	E	R	A	M	O	R	A	X	I	L	E	S	C	A	N	U	D	N	O	R	Y	U	N	D	S	Y	L	E	T	A	L	L	S	T	R	O	P	E	R	A	M	O	R	A	X	I	L	E	S	C	A	N	U	D	N	O	R	Y	U	N	D	S	Y	L	E	T	A	L	L	S	T	R	O	P	E	R	A	M	O	R	A	X	I	L	E	S	C	A	N	U	D	N	O	R	Y	U	N	D	S	Y	L	E	T	A	L	L	S	T	R	O	P	E	R	A	M	O	R	A	X	I	L	E	S	C	A	N	U	D	N	O	R	Y	U	N	D	S	Y	L	E	T	A	L	L	S	T	R	O	P	E	R	A	M	O	R	A	X	I	L	E	S	C	A	N	U	D	N	O	R	Y	U	N	D	S	Y	L	E	T	A	L	L	S	T	R	O	P	E	R	A	M	O	R	A	X	I	L	E	S	C	A	N	U	D	N	O	R	Y	U	N	D	S	Y	L	E	T	A	L	L	S	T	R	O	P	E	R	A	M	O	R	A	X	I	L	E	S	C	A	N	U	D	N	O	R	Y	U	N	D	S	Y	L	E	T	A	L	L	S	T	R	O	P	E	R	A	M	O	R	A	X	I	L	E	S	C	A	N	U	D	N	O	R	Y	U	N	D	S	Y	L	E	T	A	L	L	S	T	R	O	P	E	R	A	M	O	R	A	X	I	L	E	S	C	A	N	U	D	N	O	R	Y	U	N	D	S	Y	L	E	T	A	L	L	S	T	R	O	P	E	R	A	M	O	R	A	X	I	L	E	S	C	A	N	U	D	N	O	R	Y	U	N	D	S	Y	L	E	T	A	L	L	S	T	R	O	P	E	R	A	M	O	R	A	X	I	L	E	S	C	A	N	U	D	N	O	R	Y	U	N	D	S	Y	L	E	T	A	L	L	S	T	R	O	P	E	R	A	M	O	R	A	X	I	L	E	S	C	A	N	U	D	N	O	R	Y	U	N	D	S	Y	L	E	T	A	L	L	S	T	R	O	P	E	R	A	M	O	R	A	X	I	L	E	S	C	A	N	U	D	N	O	R	Y	U	N	D	S	Y	L	E	T	A	L	L	S	T	R	O	P	E	R	A	M	O	R	A	X	I	L	E	S	C	A	N	U	D	N	O	R	Y	U	N	D	S	Y	L	E	T	A	L	L	S	T	R	O	P	E	R	A	M	O	R	A	X	I	L	E	S	C	A	N	U	D	N	O	R	Y	U	N	D	S	Y	L	E	T	A	L	L	S	T	R	O	P	E	R	A	M	O	R	A	X	I	L	E	S	C	A	N	U	D	N	O	R	Y	U	N	D	S	Y	L	E	T	A	L	L	S	T	R	O	P	E	R	A	M	O	R	A	X	I	L	E	S	C	A	N	U	D	N	O	R	Y	U	N	D	S	Y	L	E	T	A	L	L	S	T	R	O	P	E	R	A	M	O	R	A	X	I	L	E	S	C	A	N	U	D	N	O	R	Y	U	N	D	S	Y	L	E	T	A	L	L	S	T	R	O	P	E	R	A	M	O	R	A	X	I	L	E	S	C	A	N	U	D	N	O	R	Y	U	N	D	S	Y	L	E	T	A	L	L	S	T	R	O	P	E	R	A	M	O	R	A	X	I	L	E	S	C	A	N	U	D	N	O	R	Y	U	N	D	S	Y	L	E	T	A	L	L	S	T	R	O	P	E	R	A	M	O	R	A	X	I	L	E	S	C	A	N	U	D	N	O	R	Y	U	N	D	S	Y	L	E	T	A	L	L	S	T	R	O	P	E	R	A	M	O	R	A	X	I	L	E	S	C	A	N	U	D	N	O	R	Y	U	N	D	S	Y	L	E	T	A	L	L	S	T	R</

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Sanchez outlasts Durie

NEWPORT, Rhode Island, July 23. (UPI): Top-seeded Arantxa Sanchez Vicario staved off a 5-2 deficit in the final set to beat unseeded Jo Durie 7-6 (7-2), 4-6, 7-5 yesterday in the finals of the \$225,000 Virginia Slims of Newport.

It was the first grass-court title for the 18-year-old Spaniard, known as a clay-court specialist, and her first title in the United States.

"Sanchez Vicario, ranked 7th in the world, broke Durie's service twice to even the third set at 5-5. She then held serve with a 94 mph (151-kph) ace and broke Durie again for the win with a backhand drop volley.

"When I was down 5-2, I just played point to point and concentrated really hard on coming back," Sanchez Vicario said. "I never thought I would lose the match."

Sanchez Vicario collected \$45,000 and Durie \$20,200.

Durie, of England, was playing in her first final since 1983. After battling injuries and falling from No. 5 ranking in 1984 to 127th going into the tournament, she said just reaching the Newport final was something of a victory.

"I had her 5-2 up and at least I got myself in that position," she said.

Sanchez Vicario dominated the first-set tiebreaker, but was broken in the seventh game of the second set as Durie grabbed a 4-3 lead and served out the set, punctuating her comeback with an ace.

The 29-year-old Durie then broke Sanchez Vicario in the first game of the final set and went up 3-1 after battling back from four break points.

Serving at 5-2, Durie fell behind love-30 and dropped the game when she couldn't find a forehand shot at her feet.

Serving at 5-4, she made two unforced errors to fall behind 15-30 and watched a backhand shot pass her at the net as Sanchez Vicario pulled to 5-5.

"When it came to crunch time, I got a little nervous," Durie said. "And maybe I didn't believe in myself up to the end."

Durie entered the final having connected on 71 per cent of her first serves during the tournament. But she hit only 57 per cent against Sanchez Vicario, who improved on first serves from 52 per cent to 63 per cent in the final.

Sanchez Vicario, won the French Open in 1989, said she recognised the importance of winning on grass after losing to Betsy Nagelsen in the first round at Wimledon this year.

"I knew I could do it," she said. "It's a long time until next year at Wimledon, but for sure when I go I will feel different. Players want to know I can play on grass, not only on clay, so it's important that I won."

Ivanisevic best

STUTTGART, West Germany, July 23. (AP): Goran Ivanisevic beat Guillermo Perez-Rolando in four sets to capture his first major tournament title at the \$1 million ATP Mercedes Cup yesterday.

The 18-year-old Yugoslav, a rising star on the men's circuit, won a fourth-set tiebreaker to clinch the win over ninth-seeded Perez-Roldan of Argentina 6-7, 6-4, 7-6 and the \$135,000 first prize.

"That was certainly not my best match of the tournament," said Ivanisevic, who had lost only one set on the way to the finals.



LeMond lifts the trophy after winning the Tour. (Reuter wirephoto)



LeMond (right) and Hinault hold hands on the podium after winning the Tour. (Reuter wirephoto)

Athletics blank Blue Jays.



Mike Moore in action. (Reuter wirephoto)

Results	American League	National League
Baltimore O	9 Chicago W.S.	3 Philadelphia
Kansas City	5 Detroit	6 Cincinnati
Texas	10 Minnesota	3 N.Y. Mets
N.Y. Yankees	4 Milwaukee	11 Los Angeles
Seattle	8 California	6 San Diego
Cleveland	1	6 St Louis
		3 Montreal
		4 San Francisco

Agassi outplays Grabb for crown



Agassi carries a racket across his head after losing a point to Grabb. (Reuter wirephoto)

WASHINGTON, July 23. (UPI): Andre Agassi, his game growing stronger with each match, won his third tournament of the year yesterday by defeating Jim Grabb 6-1, 6-4 in the finals of the \$550,000 Sovran Bank Tennis Classic.

The top seed handled Grabb's 100 mph serve with relative ease and used powerful forehands to finish off his opponent in 62 minutes.

"I was winning handily, but I never felt it was a sure thing," Agassi said.

Said Grabb: "I thought Andre played great. He's hitting the ball with such force these days. I would have to sustain a high level to keep that pace right now."

Agassi earned \$70,000 for the 11th victory of his career. Grabb, the No. 6 seed made \$36,880.

Earlier this year, Agassi won at San Francisco and Key Biscayne, Florida. He beat Grabb 6-2, 6-2 in the semifinals at San Francisco.

Agassi's play all week was a step above those of the other 55 players. He didn't lose a set in five matches and was taken to a tie-breaker only twice.

"Every match, it seemed like I rose to the occasion and did what I had to do," Agassi said.

In the finals, he converted 85 per cent of his serves and had 12 forehand winners and 10 backhand winners. Grabb had a first-set percentage of 62 and had forehand winner and no backhand winners.

Yesterday, the climate was especially muggy, with the temperatures 95 degrees in the shade. The only thing hotter than the weather was Agassi.

The flamboyant 20-year-old was aggressive from the outset, battering Grabb with virtually every shot. It took just over one minute for Agassi to win the first game and 20 for him to take the first set.

The lanky Grabb, 26, was on the defensive the entire match, and was erratic with his shots, missing badly at times.

The beginning of the second set was more promising for Grabb, as he held serve and began to control various points. But Agassi broke Grabb in the third game with a nice backhand passing shot.

Grabb had an opportunity to return the favour in the next game, when he won the first two points, but three consecutive unforced errors and a backhand winner by Agassi spoiled it.

Grabb had a break point — his only one of the match — in Agassi's next service game, but two forehand winners and a backhand winner by Agassi ended that hope as well.

"If I could have gotten back there, it might have been a different ballgame," Grabb said.

PARIS, July 23. (Reuter): Greg LeMond returned in triumph to the Champs Elysees yesterday, saluting proudly to the spectators lining the way as he captured his third Tour de France cycle victory.

The American, who edged French rider Laurent Fignon by just eight seconds last year in the most dramatic finish the race has ever seen, had it easier this time.

He won by a more leisurely margin of two minutes 16 seconds from Claudio Chiappucci, the surprise packet of the Tour.

The Italian had worn the race leader's yellow jersey for nine days before time trial specialist LeMond seized it from him on Saturday in the final race against the clock.

The honour of winning the 21st and last stage of 182.5 kms from Breteigny-sur-Orge, raced in the same sweltering heat which has marked the last two weeks of the three-week event, went to Johan Museeuw of Belgium.

"I was still nervous until I crossed the finish line," a smiling Le Mond said. "Now I'm very happy. It's wonderful, there's something very special about this race."

"There's almost more emotion about winning this year. Last year I was very excited and surprised. This time I have more emotion and feeling for my team who helped me so much."

Museeuw won a sprint finish of the peloton at the end of the traditional parade through the French capital whose streets were lined with an estimated half a million spectators.

After eight laps up and down the Champs Elysees, the Belgian won his second stage of this year's race in four hours 53 minutes 52 seconds from Adriano Baffi of Italy and Olaf Ludwig of East Germany.

Erik Breukink of the Netherlands, winner of two time trial stages, joined LeMond and Chiappucci on the victory rostrum by finishing in third place overall just 13 seconds behind the Italian.

It was LeMond's third victory in the race and one which guaranteed him a place of honour in Tour de France history.

He joined Frenchman Romain Bouet and Belgian Philippe Thys with three wins.

Only Frenchmen Jacques

Anquetil and Bernard Hinault and Belgian Eddy Merckx, who each won the race five times, have done better.

The 29-year-old Californian first won the Tour in 1986 but missed the chance to defend it the following year after almost being killed in a hunting accident. He did not return to the race he has made his own until last year.

LeMond holds the unique record of standing on the victory rostrum in each of the five Tours he has ridden.

Only the fourth rider, after

Bobet, Merckx and Hinault, to win the Tour as reigning world champion, LeMond finished without a single stage victory, the first winner to do so since Lucien Aimar of France in 1966.

That fact did not distract him. "Stage wins don't matter, what's important is the overall standings," he said.

If last year's triumph was a salute to his courage in overcoming adversity, this year's victory was a tribute to his athletic qualities and his masterly tactical sense.

LeMond emerged as the giant of the peloton, masterminding the assault on Chiappucci's big early lead after the Italian was in a first stage breakaway which gained 10 minutes 35 seconds on the bunch.

He chipped resolutely at the lead and finally overturned it with some brilliant rides notably in the 13th stage to St Etienne and the 16th in the Pyrenees.

The plucky Italian, who was not even named among the pre-race favourites, finally succumbed in the time trial at Lac de Vassiviere but his persistence gave much to a Tour which saw the main favourites, LeMond apart, disappoint.

The 1988 winner Pedro Delgado of Spain was more than five minutes behind in fourth place.

Former world number one Charly Mottet of France and 1987 champion Stephen Roche of Ireland fared much worse, both finishing out of the top 40 and more than an hour behind LeMond.

Frazer suffered its worst record in the 87-year history of the Tour, with top rider Fabrice Philpot placing only 14th. Only once before, in 1925 when Romain Bellenger was 14th, had no Frenchman placed in the first 10.

Argentines stun England squad

BUENOS AIRES, July 23. (Reuter): A Buenos Aires regional rugby team on Saturday sent England to its second defeat in a seven-match tour with a 26-23 victory.

Fielding few seasoned international players, England failed to capitalise their greater weight and height against Buenos Aires who won the match in the last minute with a try by centre Eduardo Laborda next to the goalposts.

The tourists opened powerfully in the first half of the match played before 5,000 spectators on a clear, cold day at the Velez Sarsfield stadium.

The visitors opened the scoring with a try by flanker Dean Ryan following a scrum.

Captain Will Cartling added a second try when he weaved his way across the line a perfect ruck.

But after building up a first-half lead of 13-7, England started making simple mistakes and gave the locals a chance to chip away at their advantage.

"We are still giving too many penalties away," England manager Geoff Cooke said.

England's defence was solid, conceding only 13 points to the visitors.

England's forwards were impressive, particularly the pack which包袋了 3 for 26 and 2 for 46 respectively off their quota of 6 overs each while Wings Liqat, Saeed and Dinesh took a wicket each.

Wings at the end managed a more respectable 151 for 6 in 22 completed overs.

The Lankans did not lose heart in the face of this imposing target and paced out their innings beautifully. Openers Nihal and Namal put on 27 in 3 overs before Nihal needlessly chased a wide delivery to be caught behind for 8.

Meral joined Namal to add a further 31 in 4 overs before Namal holed out for a dashing 28 with the help of 2 fours. From then on it was plain sailing for the Lankans with Meral and Donald scoring almost at will against an attack which lacked depth to really trouble batsmen of this class, until Meral apparently more troubled by the intense heat rather than the quality of his bowling, finally threw his wicket away playing across the line of a straight ball.

Donald joined Meral who remained unbeaten on 136 with six savage strikes at the end, to complete formalities in what turned out to be a 26-23 victory.

Bowling honours for the Lankans were shared by Chula and Kusal who bagged 3 for 26 and 2 for 46 respectively off their quota of 6 overs each while Wings Liqat, Saeed and Dinesh took a wicket each.

Rosi keeps IBF title

MARINO, Italy, July 23. (UPI): Italy's Gianfranco Rosi retained his International Boxing Federation super welterweight title Saturday night with a 12-round unanimous points decision over American Darrin van Horn.

Rosi, who turns 33 in two weeks, outpointed the 21-year-old American — nicknamed "Schoolboy" for his fresh-faced looks — in a nervous, confused match one year after taking the title from van Horn in Atlantic City, New Jersey.

Rosi sustained a cut over his right eyebrow in the first round

at Marino, in the wine-growing hills south of Rome.

Survived

In the ladies consolation round, Evelyn Cabrera reached the finals when she won over Cathy Paleyan 9-3. Janet Hernandez survived 2-7 down against Liberty Corral, pinned Liberty on 7 and won in the ensuing tie-break 9-8. It was an impressive comeback for Janet from 2 to 9 and a letdown for Liberty who was only 2 games away from winning the match.

The finals for classes B, C Ladies, Doubles and consolation round will be on August 2. The Men's class A final will be on August 3 at 6pm. The awarding and players barbecue will follow at the poolside of the Holiday Inn Crowne Plaza. Lots of raffle prizes will be given away. Those who have a swim put proper attire is a must.

This tournament is organised by Kay and Associates Tennis Club.

The principal sponsors are: National Bank of Kuwait, SAK, Kuwait Tourism and Shipping Corp., Al Rashed Freight and Holiday Inn Crowne Plaza in co-operation with City International Exchange/Far East Bank, Mahayeh Restaurant and Saloon and Canada Dry — the official softdrink of the tournament.

Donors are Mabaraka Novelty, Ariens Handicrafts, Al France and Trendwave Shop.

The schedule of games for Thursday, July 26, 6pm: R. Quider vs W.

Maran, R. Mercado vs G. Opizdo;

6pm: R. Doliente vs J. Diazito,

F. Pentecco vs R. Rodriguez;

7pm: H. Mendoza vs R. Urot, L. Cruz vs A. de la Cruz;

8pm: A. San Diego vs H. Babalo, B. Clemeno vs N. Villar;

R. Urot vs F. Pentecco;

Rodriguez vs B. Aldecoa, Cruz vs A. de la Cruz;

9pm: R. Cruz/H. Mendoza

Belgian driver killed in 24-hour race

SPA-FRANCORCHAMPS, Belgium, July 23. (UPI): West Germany BMWs filled both top slots at the 24-hour Spa-Francorchamps touring car endurance race yesterday while last year's victors in the Ford Sierra Cosworth finished third.

The 37th edition of event was over-

shadowed by the death of 27-year-old local Belgian driver Guy Renard in a crash just after midnight. Renard was killed when the fuel tank of his Toyota Corolla exploded after his car tailspinned into the crash barriers and rebounded onto the track at the Raidillon uphill

straight of the track.

A high speed Porsche driven by Andre Hardy and a fast following Ford Cosworth steered by British Andy Lyall struck the Toyota which immediately caught fire and then exploded.

Hardy and Lyall were unhurt.

Both BMW M3 Schnitzer automobiles strongly defended their long-standing lead, the Cecotto-Giroix-Ostrich combination completing 468 laps of 6.940 km (4.312 miles) on the fast Francorchamps circuit totalling 3,247.920 km in 21.44:08 hours.

Faldo takes British Open title

Stewart falls away over closing holes

ST ANDREWS, Scotland, July 23. (Reuters): Nick Faldo won his second British Open golf title by five shots yesterday after a challenge by American Payne Stewart fell away over the closing holes.

Stewart, beginning the day five adrift of Faldo, moved to within two strokes with six holes to play but was unable to sustain his charge.

The 33-year-old Briton, who won at Muirfield in 1987, returned a final one-under-par 71 to become the first man in eight years to capture two Grand Slam tournaments in the same year.

Faldo won the US Masters in April for the second year in succession. American Tom Watson won the US and British Opens titles in 1982.

Faldo, who missed getting into the playoff at last month's US Open by one shot, birdied the opening hole on Sunday, dropped a shot at the fourth, then birdied the fifth.

When he could only par the next seven holes, his five-shot overnight margin had dwindled to two as Stewart closed in with birdies at the fifth, sixth, 10th and 12th.

But Stewart bogeyed the 13th and then the final two holes as Faldo birdied the 15th and made a safe bogey at 17.

Faldo's winning total of 270, 18 under par, was six shots better than the previous Open best at St Andrews of 276, set by Spain's Severiano Ballesteros in 1984.

It was two shots outside the Open record of 268 set by Watson when he won his second title at Turnberry in 1977.

Faldo's previous rounds were



Stewart bows his head in dejection after a bogie on the 18th hole. (Reuters wirephoto)

67, 65 and 67.

Stewart also had a final round of 71 and had to share second

place with Zimbabwe's Mark McNulty, who compiled a seven-under-par 65, the best round of

Norman, who shared the half-way lead with Faldo before

the day.

Faldo won £85,000 (\$153,000). Stewart and McNulty each won £50,000 (\$109,000).

Faldo's winning margin of five shots was the largest since Greg Norman won at Turnberry, by the same number in 1986.

As he held the silver claret jug which traditionally goes to the winner, Faldo said: "This is the ultimate for me, of course. I feel fortunate to have won at St Andrews."

"When I missed out at the US Open last month, I said to myself, 'I am going to win this Open' and I channelled everything in this direction.

"I had some crazy moments out there, to lead by five and then for Payne to get within two. I wanted a four-shot lead playing the last and instead I had five," he said.

"When I knocked in a four-foot putt at 15, that was the key," he said.

"But I was under pressure. My heart was racing, especially when Payne got within two."

With his record of two British Open and two US Masters wins along with second and third place finishes in two of the last three US Opens, Faldo has a huge claim to be considered the best player in the world.

But the computer disagrees and Norman still leads him by 0.59 points from results over the past three years.

American Jodie Mudd and Ian Woosnam of Britain shared fourth spot on 276 after closing rounds of 66 and 69 respectively.

Norman, who shared the half-way lead with Faldo before

plummeting from contention with a 76 on Saturday, carded a final round of 69 to share sixth spot with fellow-Australian Ian Baker-Finch, round in 73.

Faldo began where he left off on Saturday, pitching to four feet at the opening hole and making the putt for a birdie, extending his lead to six shots.

Baker-Finch immediately pulled that shot back at the second but could make no further progress and Stewart soon loomed as the main challenger.

Faldo found a greenside bunker with his approach at the fourth and took a bogey, but he birdied the 564-yard fifth after reaching the green in two.

As he parred hole after from four birdies over eight holes from the fifth.

But he drove into a bunker at the 13th. "That kind of took the wind out of my sails," said the US PGA title holder. "That was the one that made all the difference."

"I had been on a roll. That was the first fairway bunker I had been in all week and it came at a bad time. I was aware I was within a couple of strokes."

"To finish with two bogeys was disappointing. To be second in the Open is irrelevant. It's the winning that it's all about," he said.

Faldo, meanwhile, holed a six-foot putt for birdie at the 15th and punched his fist into the air in his first positive show of emotion all day.

Then he played safely for a bogey five at the tough 17th, approaching short and chipping to 20 foot before two-putting.



Faldo kisses his trophy. (Reuters wirephoto)

Bayern look set to keep German title

BONN, July 23. (UPI): Two weeks before the start of the new season, West German League champion Bayern Munich looks set to capture its 13th national title and launch an attack on the predominant position of Italian clubs in European soccer.

With half a dozen players from Franz Beckenbauer's World Cup winning line-up and five players bought from other clubs, Bayern is expanding its horizons beyond domestic honours.

"The quality of the squad is the best that Bayern ever had. It's the groundwork for the nineties," said Bayern's business manager Uli Hoeneß when the club presented its line-up for the coming season.

Bayern wants to compete with the manpower level of the Italian clubs, which have dominated European competition since English clubs were banned five years ago.

"We have a team of substance and class, with good perspectives, which together with the new players can bring us closer to the Italians," coach Jupp Heynckes said.

Manager Hoeneß said he had been "unusually active" on the transfer market, investing 13 million marks (\$3.79 million) on new players.

The most expensive of Bayern's new acquisitions is Danish striker Brian Laudrup, bought from Uerdingen for 6 million marks (\$3.4 million).

Stefan Effenberg, a defensive midfielder, joined Bayern from Borussia Moenchengladbach for four million marks (\$2.4 million).

Bayern paid 3.5 million marks (\$2.1 million) for Michael Sternkopf of Karlsruhe, a young midfielder who is widely regarded as one of the biggest talents in German soccer.

Two teenagers, Christian Ziege, 18, and Danish player Alan Nielsen, 19, have been signed to boost Bayern's playing staff.

BRITISH OPEN QUOTES

ST ANDREWS, Scotland, July 23. (Reuters): A selection of the best quotes from the 19th British Open golf championship.

"What the heck, golf is just a game, an idiotic game most of the time." Defending champion Mark Calcavecchia after missing the halfway cut.

"We have had the weather relatively easy. Usually even the seagulls walk around here." Nick Faldo, well-known bird-watcher.

"He can overpower a course like this. There are bunkers that come into play for us guys that he doesn't even see." Nick Price on the special talent of Greg Norman.

"It's a golf course that can come back and eat you very quickly." A proponent of Norman before his third round of 76.

"I send my wife Barbara 12 red roses every day to try and keep him at home." Lee Trevino explains how to beat Jack Nicklaus on the Seniors tour.

"The first Open I went to at Troon in 1973, we stayed in a tent and I wore my pyjamas under my clothes because it was so cold." Faldo remembers what the Scottish weather used to be like.

"I'm no threat to anyone. I'm like a duck, I don't even know what lake I wake up at." Trevino on his tournament chances.

"He'll win a major for sure. He's knocked the flagsticks down these last two days." Jack Nicklaus on Spain's Jose-Maria Olazabal.

"Momma didn't raise no fool." Payne Stewart, who has a clothing contract with the NFL, on why he tries to wear the colours of local teams when he plays.

"The only difference between amateurs and professionals is they call a left-to-right shot a slice and we call it a fade." Peter Jacobsen claiming that top golfers are mortal after all.

"I was thinking about being a humble winner. I would have been if that sucker had gone on." Doug Sanders recalls his thoughts before the fateful putt which lost him the 1970 Open at St Andrews.

"I began to think of all the poor souls whose bones are buried in there." David Jones of Northern Ireland in the infamous Road bunker.

"I hit a five iron 198 yards. It felt better than sex." Englishman Martin Foxes enjoying the 17th hole rather more.

"I've got an ingrowing toenail that's infected. But it's not that infected." Craig Stadler after taking 48 shots for the first nine holes in the opening round.

Karpov takes tourney lead

BIENNE, Switzerland, July 23. (UPI): Anatoly Karpov, ranked No 2 in the world, defeated Joel Lautier, the world's youngest grandmaster, to take the lead after the third round of the International Grandmasters' Chess Tournament.

Karpov, who will meet defending champion Garry Kasparov in the world championship final in October, won Sunday after 51 moves. The 17-year-old Frenchman is ranked 54th.

After three rounds, Karpov is trailed by Sweden's Ulf Andersson, and West Germany's Matthias Wahls, who played to a draw.

Also sharing a point were Lev Polugayevsky of the Soviet Union and Nick de Firmian of the United States, after the shortest game of the evening, 13 moves.

Third round results:

Anatoly Karpov, Soviet Union, — Joel Lautier, France, 1-0, 51 moves.

Lev Polugayevsky, Soviet Union, — Nick de Firmian, United States, 0.5-0.5, 13 moves.

Anthony Miles, United States, — Vlastimil Hort, West Germany, adjourned after 63 moves.

Marseille edge Nice in opener

PARIS, July 23. (UPI): Defending champion Marseille and its leading striker Jean-Pierre Papin picked up where they left off last season, with the country's top-scorer notching a 72nd-minute winner Saturday in a 1-0 win over Nice in the opening round of the French Soccer League.

The new Marseille lineup did not disappoint the 35,000 fans at the Marseille Velodrome, although it struggled somewhat in the first half. Yugoslav midfielder Dragan Stojkovic, the club's big closed-season signing, entered the fray from the substitute bench in the second half.

But it was Philippe Verrouyse who found Papin with a pass

midway through the second half for the game-winning goal.

Bordeaux, runner-up to Marseille last season, got off to a disappointing start in a goalless draw against Lyon.

Despite the inclusion of new signings Belgian Patrick Vervoort and Dutchman Wim Kieft, Bordeaux failed to impress.

At Parc des Princes in Paris, the new Paris St Germain lineup coached by Henri Michel scored a come-from-behind 2-1 victory over Nancy.

After falling a goal behind in the 53rd minute to the newly-promoted First Division club, Safran Suisse hit the equalizer with

10 minutes left.

Calvin, 19, of St Louis was pronounced dead at the scene of the shooting about 5:30 a.m., authorities said.

State police said details of the shooting on the east end of the Martin Luther King Bridge, which connects East St Louis to St Louis, were sketchy.

Calvin was shot several times by an unidentified gunman firing from inside the car, investigators said. They said several other people in the car with Calvin escaped injury. Witnesses said another car sped away from the scene after the shooting.

State police said it appeared Calvin had been returning to St Louis from a bar in East St Louis, where he reportedly had been involved in a fight.

Calvin, a former Golden Gloves boxer in St Louis, had been scheduled to fight his third professional bout this evening in St Louis.

He had won his first two matches.

He was estranged from his father while growing up, but Leon Spinks attended his son's last pro victory and had promised to attend this evening's fight, family members said. They said Calvin left behind a 2-year-old son and a 10-month-old daughter.

Spinks' son shot dead

EAST ST LOUIS, Illinois, July 23. (UPI): The son of former heavyweight boxing champion Leon Spinks was shot to death early yesterday as he sat in a car on a bridge spanning the Mississippi river, Illinois state police said.

Leon Spinks, 19, of St Louis was pronounced dead at the scene of the shooting about 5:30 a.m., authorities said.

State police said details of the shooting on the east end of the Martin Luther King Bridge, which connects East St Louis to St Louis, were sketchy.

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US champion

KUALA LUMPUR, July 23. (UPI): The United States, led by Katrina McClain with 23 points and Teresa Edwards with 17, defeated Yugoslavia 88-78 yesterday to retain its women's world basketball title.

The Americans, who defeated Yugoslavia in the Seoul Olympics final, used superior shooting and rebounding to lead 41-31 at halftime.

LE MANS, France, July 23. (UPI): American Kevin Schwantz recovered from a disastrous start to win the French 500 cc motorcycling Grand Prix on his Suzuki yesterday and close the gap on compatriot Wayne Rainey, the world championship leader.

Rainey, riding a Yamaha, managed only third place, his worst performance this year. Honda rider Wayne Gardner of Australia was second.

However, Rainey still enjoys a comfortable 30-point lead over Schwantz in the championship standings.

Schwantz took no advantage of his pole position on the grid, falling back to eighth place after a very slow start. But he was soon back in contention, moving up to fourth after one lap.

Schwantz built a three-second advantage over Gardner which he was able to maintain until the finish despite tyre problems which affected all the riders in the very hot weather.



Soviet gymnast Valentin Mogulin in action on the pommel horse at the Goodwill Games. (Reuters wirephoto)



Jackie-Joyner Kersee in action on Sunday as she captured the first leg of the Goodwill Games' heptathlon title. (Reuters wirephoto)

Taylor gets ready for England job

LONDON, July 23. (UPI): Graham Taylor, newly-appointed replacement for Bobby Robson as England soccer team manager, today started preparing the way for when he leaves the job.

Taylor, who has just accepted a four-year contract believed to be worth £500,000 (\$900,000), wants to initiate a structure of succession which would allow the Football Association to view all future candidates at an early stage of their career.

Taylor has appointed 52-year-old former Southampton and Sunderland manager Lawrie McMenemy as his only fulltime member of staff.

McMenemy, out of soccer management for three years, has a brief to oversee the England B and under-21 teams and take the heat off Taylor at all levels.

McMenemy, who will also have coaches coming in to prepare the B and England under-21 teams, said: "Graham has somebody who doesn't want his job, but is just delighted to give him any help he needs."

"A manager's job can be very lonely and Graham has the highest one there is. It follows that it could also be the loneliest."

Taylor said McMenemy's title will be manager's assistant — not assistant manager.

"It is a subtle distinction. I've taken on Lawrie because I wanted somebody with a greater involvement than Dave Sexton who, apart from John Cartwright at the national soccer school, was Bobby Robson's only full-time staff man."

"When Dave resigned after Bobby, it made it more urgent for me to appoint my own full-time man. There are unlikely to be other full-time appointments."

Vengsarkar hits Leicestershire for 80

LEICESTER, England, July 23. (Reuters): India's Dilip Vengsarkar warmed up yesterday for the first cricket Test at Lord's this week with an effortless 80 on the second day of the three-day match against Leicestershire.

Vengsarkar, at 34 the most experienced of the Indian batsmen, has scored a century on each of his previous Tests at cricket's headquarters.

Yesterday he unleashed a series of glorious attacking shots, hitting 13 boundaries in all, as India took their first innings to 361 for

seven declared, a lead of 51.

All of the top-order batsmen made runs against an attack missing England all-rounder Chris Lewis for most of the day because of a headache.

Skipper Mohammed Azharuddin scored 46 in a fifth-wicket partnership of 92 with Vengsarkar. Sanjay Manjrekar made 66 and Sachin Tendulkar stroked six fours in a brief but brilliant 30.

Scoreboard

LEICESTERSHIRE first innings

T. Boon b Sharma.....1

N. Briers not out.....150

J. Whitaker b Hirwani.....61

P. Willey c Tendulkar b Hirwani.....5

L. Potter b Wassen.....22

C. Lewis c Manjrekar b Raju.....1

J. Benson c Sharma b Wassen.....0

W. Benjamin c Mongia b Wassen.....55

P. Nixon not out.....3

Extras (b-8 w-1 nb-3).....12

Total (for seven wickets, declared).....310

Fall of wickets: 1-12; 2-3; 3-150; 4-199

5-216; 6-217; 7-303

Did not bat: G. Parsons, A. Mullally

Bowling: Prabhakar 10-1-85-0,

Sharma 16-5-91-1; Tendulkar 1-0-9-0,

Wessels 17-1-76-3; Raju 30-7-62-1,

Hirwani 22-1-79-2.

INDIA first innings (overnight 23 for 100)

1-40-1.

M. Prabhakar c Potter b Benjamin.....2

N. Sutha c Nixon b Lewis.....25

S. Manjrekar c Nixon b Mullally.....66

S. Tendulkar c Benson b Parsons.....30

D. Vengsarkar c Whilekar b Potter.....80

M. Azharuddin c Mullally b Willey.....45

N. Mongia not out.....63

V. Raju run out.....3

S. Sharma not out.....23

Extras (b-10 lb-9 nb-4).....23

Total (for seven wickets, declared).....361

Fall of wickets: 1-8-2; 7-3-131 4-135

5-227; 6-239; 7-302

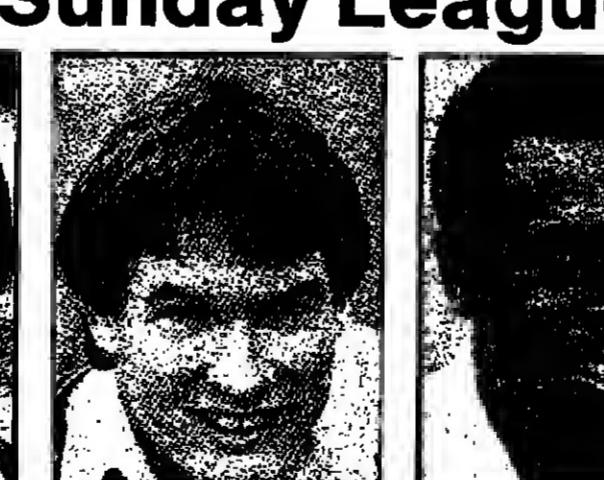
Did not bat: A. Wassen, N. Hirwani

Bowling: Benjamin 10-2-81-1; Lewis

11-2-91-1; Parsons 16-2-73-1; Mullally

18-1-78-1; Willey 17-5-42-1; Potter 12-

1-40-1.



They were finally all out for 140 in just 28.5 overs to lose by 230 runs, their heaviest defeat in the competition.

Destructive bowling by Pakistani Waqar Younis carried Surrey to a five-wicket win over Kent at The Oval with 17 balls to spare.

Younis, kept back until the 18th over, wrecked any Kent hopes of posting a challenging total by taking five for 26 in 7.4 overs.

Kent were all out for 164 and an unbeaten 69 by Graham Thorpe saw Surrey past their total for an unbeaten 252.

A demoralised Glamorgan never looked like approaching the Somerset total, losing their first three wickets with only 19 on the board.

They were finally all out for 140 in just 28.5 overs to lose by 230 runs, their heaviest defeat in the competition.

Hampshire seamer Cardigan Connor took a career-best four for 11 to send joint leaders Derbyshire crashing to defeat by 189 runs at Portsmouth.

Sent in to bat, Hampshire ran up a formidable 250 for five, mainly due to a second wicket stand of 147 in 23 overs between Richard Scott and Robin Smith.

Scott struck nine boundaries in a rapid 76 while Smith hit a six and eight fours in making 83.

Derbyshire had no answer to the

loss of five wickets.

Hampshire pace attack and collapsed to 61 in 91.1 overs.

At Portsmouth: Hampshire beat Derbyshire by 189 runs. Hampshire 250 for five wickets closed (R. Smith 83, R. Scott 76, D. Gower 47 not out). Derbyshire 61 in 19.1 overs (C. Connor four for 11).

Hampshire four points.

At Neath: Somerset beat Glamorgan by 220 runs. Somerset 360 for three wickets closed (G. Rose 148, J. Cook 136 not out).

Glamorgan 140 in 28.5 overs.

Somerset four points.

At Cheltenham: Yorkshire beat Gloucestershire by seven wickets. Gloucestershire 226 for six wickets closed (W. Athey 80, A. Wright 57). Yorkshire 227 for three in 35.5 overs (R. Blakey 100 not out, M. Lloyd 63, A. Dil 43, D. Reeve 41). Nottinghamshire four points.

Standings

Team	W	L	RR	LR	DP
Essex	12	9	3	0	36
Gloucestershire	12	9	3	0	32
Leicestershire	12	7	3	0	32
Kent	11	7	4	0	28
Nottinghamshire	12	7	5	0	28
Hampshire	12	6	4	0	24
Yorkshire	12	6	5	0	24
Somerset	12	6	6	0	24
Surrey	11	6	5	0	24
Gloucester	12	5	6	0	24
Cardigan Connor	12	4	7	0	24
Glamorgan	12	4	6	0	18
Sussex	11	4	6	0	18
Warwickshire	11	4	7	0	18
Worcester	11	4	7	0	16
Leicester	11	3	8	0	16
Northants	11	2	9	0	8

They include the traditional disciplines of showjumping, dressage and three-day eventing, but also feature endurance racing, vaulting and carriage driving.

Favourites for the showjumping are Olympic champion Pierre Durand of France on Jappeloup and Briton John Whitaker on Milton.

Britain's Virginia Leng and Olympic champion Mark Todd of New Zealand are strongly fancied in the three-day event.

Another Olympic champion, Nicole Uphoff of West Germany, is one of the top names for the dressage.

Organisers intend to keep a tight rein on doping offenders and stalls will be electronically watched.

Sweden bans the use of a horse drug known as hute which is used in some other countries. But it had to compromise for the Games and allow the internationally accepted bute level.

Bute eases joint inflammation but is sometimes overused and can enable horses to jump when they are unfit.

"We will test between 50 and 100 horses, some randomly and some suspected cases," said veterinarian Peter Kallings.

Evans rebounds from rare loss for 2nd win

Nesty swims to gold at Goodwill Games

SEATTLE, July 23. (UPI): Anthony Nesty, who listened to two years of excuses from rival Matt Biondi, rallied to win their showdown yesterday, and Janet Evans rebounded from a rare loss to claim her second gold of the Goodwill Games.

Nesty's 100-butterfly victory in his brief, but intense, rivalry with Biondi highlighted the early action on a day in which 29 gold medals were scheduled to be awarded in swimming, rowing, gymnastics and track and field.

Two years ago in Seoul, Nesty, a native of Suriname now competing for the University of Florida, became the first black Olympic swimming gold medalist by beating Biondi by one-hundredth of a second. They had not faced each other since until yesterday's race at the King County Aquatics Centre.

In the interim, Biondi has insisted he would have beaten Nesty in Seoul had he not strained his hamstring and coasted to the wall. Biondi went on to win four Olympic golds, and he had won two at the Goodwill Games entering yesterday's race.

Nesty, meanwhile, withdrew from the 200-metre butterfly earlier in the Games to point toward yesterday. At the 50-metre mark, Biondi led by almost half a body, but his turn was less than smooth. Although Biondi still owned the lead coming off the turn, Nesty — a two-time winner at this year's NCAA Championships — had the momentum and, with 23 metres to go, he pulled in front.

Instead of nipping Biondi as he did in Seoul, Nesty recorded a clear victory. He was timed in 53.42 to 53.82 for Biondi.

"I was so nervous I couldn't stand it," Nesty admitted. "Big-time nervous. The time wasn't all that great, but I'll take it."

"I'm pretty disappointed," Biondi said. "I was really shooting for this race and I didn't do very well. I didn't have it. I really didn't feel all that well and I never felt smooth or on top of the water. The last 10 metres weren't as good as they should have been."

Nesty's win slowed down the United States' surge in the Goodwill Games swimming competition. Americans had won 10 of the first 14 swims over the first two days, but they won only three of the seven contested yesterday.

One of those, however, came from Evans — the three-time Olympic champion who added the 400-metre freestyle gold to the 800-metre freestyle title she won Friday. Evans lost the 400-metre individual medley Saturday for the first time in four years.

The American effort in the pool swelled the United States' medal total to 35, with 14 golds. The Soviet Union had nine gold medals and 29 overall. East Germany had seven gold medals and 21 total.

West Germany, Holland, Italy, Poland and Suriname all won gold medals for the first time in the games yesterday, with West Germany capturing three of the day's seven rowing races.

The two days of rowing ended with the Soviet Union having won five of the 15 events. At the inaugural Goodwill Games in Moscow four years ago, the Soviet Union won eight races at the rowing venue. The only medal won by the United States in yesterday's race was a silver captured by the men's eights.

In team competition, the Soviet Union wrapped up a spot in the medal round in women's volleyball with a 3-1 victory over Brazil. The United States, however, lost hope for a medal when it fell to Canada and lost for the second time in two games.

The Americans, down two sets to one, won the fourth set but lost the fifth, 15-12.

Yugoslavia won the opening team handball game over Iceland 18-17. Czechoslovakia and Japan played a 25-25 draw.

In addition to Evans, the United States gold medals in the swimming pool went to Betsy Mitchell in the 100-metre backstroke and Dave Wharton in the 400-metre individual medley.

Wharton, however, shared first place in his race with East Germany's Patrick Kuehl in a rare dead heat.

It was the first tie in a major international swimming meet since Nancy Hogshead and Carrie Steinseifer touched the wall at the same instant on the opening day of the Los Angeles Olympics in the 100-metre freestyle.

Other swimming winners